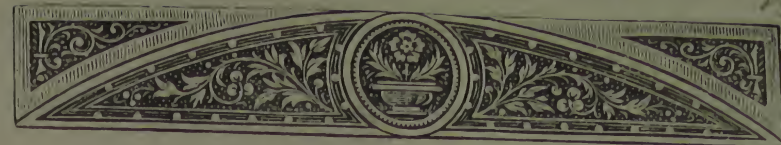


p1cmc272  
13



THE PARENTS'  
NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL UNION.

ANNUAL REPORT.

JUNE, 1892.



"How shall we order the child."

"The child is father to the man."

"Ce n'est que le premier pas qui coûte."

"Our national wealth has increased, our political liberty has increased, our knowledge of natural laws has increased enormously; but our national virtue and intelligence have not increased *pari passu*. . . . What progress, except progress in character and virtue, is worth calling progress?"—*The Religious Thought of our Time*—Rev. J. M. WILSON, M.A.

"Our chief social, and in the end, political danger is the wreck of domestic life among our people."—Cardinal MANNING.

"The relation of Parent and Child carries with it that which no external power can create, and which no external power can destroy. . . . This truth of the eternal majesty of authority, of the eternal loveliness of reverent obedience, commended to us still in our childhood, is not the least precious part of our social heritage as Englishmen."—*Social Aspects of Christianity*.—BISHOP OF DURHAM.

p2cmc272

# Parents' National Educational Union.

## PRESIDENTS:

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF ABERDEEN.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS:

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF MEATH.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF RIPON.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF WINCHESTER.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF WAKEFIELD.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM.

THE RIGHT REV. DR. BLUNT, BISHOP OF HULL.

THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON FARRAR, D.D.

THE MASTER OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

SIR J. CRICHTON BROWNE, M.D., F.R.S.

SIR FREDERICK AND LADY HOGG.

THE HEAD MASTER OF HARROW.

THE HON. MRS. FRANCIS BRIDGMAN.

THE REV. E. A. STUART, M.A.

MISS DOROTHEA BEALE.

MISS FRANCES BUSS.

MRS. BOYD CARPENTER.

MISS EMILY SHIRREFF.

p3cmc272

## COUNCIL:

MISS ROSE ADAMS.  
MRS. F. H. ANSON.  
MRS. ARNOLD-FORSTER.  
OSCAR BROWNING, Esq.  
MRS. MONTAGU BUTLER.  
MISS M. A. CHREIMANN.  
\*MRS. COTTON.  
\*A. C. P. COOTE, Esq., AND MRS. COOTE.  
MRS. J. SPENCER CURWEN.  
THE REV. CANON AND MRS. DANIEL.  
\*MRS. J. A. DEUCHAR-JONES.  
MRS. ELLIS.  
THE REV. J. P. FAUNTHORPE, M.A.  
REV. JAMES S. FORSYTH, M.A., F.S.Sc., &c.  
\*MISS FRANKS.  
THE REV. CANON FURSE AND MRS. FURSE.  
JUDGE GATES, Q.C., AND MRS. GATES.  
A. H. GILKES, Esq., M.A.  
DR. GLADSTONE, F.R.S.  
\*J. E. GORDON, Esq., AND MRS. GORDON.  
\*MRS. GURNEY-FOX.  
\*MRS. HART-DAVIS.  
MRS. HOLTON.  
\*JOHN JACKSON, Esq., F.E.I.S.  
\*THE REV. W. H. KEELING, M.A., AND MRS. KEELING.  
\*MRS. STEWART MACKAY.  
\*M. R. MARGESSON, Esq., AND THE LADY ISABEL MARGESSON.  
MRS. MAUDE.  
MRS. L. T. MEADE.  
PROFESSOR MAX MULLER, M.A.  
MRS. MULLER.  
\*MRS. HALLAM MURRAY.  
C. KEGAN PAUL, Esq., M.A., AND MRS. KEGAN PAUL.  
\*HENRY PERRIN, Esq., AND MRS. PERRIN.  
J. SURTEES PHILLPOTTS, Esq., M.A.  
G. T. PILCHER, Esq.  
\*EDWARD C. ROBINS Esq., F.S.A., AND MRS. ROBINS.  
T. G. ROOPER, Esq., H.M.I.  
MRS. SCHARLIEB, M.D.  
\*DR. A. T. SCHOFIELD AND MRS. SCHOFIELD.  
\*THE REV. T. W. SHARPE, M.A., H.M.I.  
A. SONNENSCHIEIN, Esq.  
\*FRANCIS STEINTHAL, Esq., AND MRS. STEINTHAL.  
PROFESSOR SULLY, M.A.  
MISS ANNA SWANWICK.  
\*THE HON. EDWARD THESIGER AND MRS. THESIGER.  
THE REV. G. R. THORNTON, M.A.  
\*A. H. TUBBY, Esq., M.B., M.S.  
\*ALFRED THOMPSON, Esq., AND MRS. THOMPSON.  
MRS. SYMES THOMPSON.  
THE REV. EDWARD WYNNE, M.A.  
MISS HELEN WEBB, M.B.  
MRS. FRANCIS WARNER.  
REV. H. W. WEBB-PEPLOE, M.A.

## TREASURER:

JAMES GORDON, Esq.,  
BRADFORD OLD BANK,  
BRADFORD, YORKS.

## GENERAL HON. SECRETARY:

MISS CHARLOTTE M. MASON,  
HOUSE OF EDUCATION, AMBLESIDE.

## HON. ORGANIZING SECRETARY:

HENRY PERRIN,  
67, BROADHURST GARDENS,  
LONDON, N.W.

\* Those Members of the Council whose names are marked \* form the Executive Committee.



p4cme272

# RULES AND PRINCIPLES

OF THE

## Parents' National Educational Union.

---

1.—This Society shall be called "The Parents' National Educational Union."

2.—The Central Principles, to which all Local Branches joining the Society shall pledge themselves, shall be:—

- (1) That a religious basis of work be maintained.
- (2) That the series of addresses and other means employed by the Union shall be so arranged as to deal with Education under the following heads:—Physical, Mental, Moral, and Religious.
- (3) That arrangements concerning Lectures, &c., be made with a view to the convenience of fathers as well as of mothers.
- (4) That the work of the Union be arranged so as to help parents of all classes.

3.—That the objects of the Society shall be:—

- (1) To assist parents of all classes to understand the best principles and methods of Education in all its aspects, and especially in those which concern the formation of habits and character.
- (2) To create a better public opinion on the subject of the training of children, and, with this object in view, to collect and make known the best information and experience on the subject.
- (3) To afford to parents opportunities for Co-operation and Consultation, so that the wisdom and experience of each may be made profitable for all.
- (4) To stimulate their enthusiasm through the sympathy of numbers acting together.
- (5) To secure greater unity and continuity of Education by harmonising home and school training.

## CONSTITUTION.

4.—The Society shall consist of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Ordinary Members, a Central Council and Executive Committee, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, and Local Branches.

5.—The following persons shall be Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Members of Council:—with power to add to their number. (See list on Pages 2 and 3.)

6.—The following shall be the Officers of the Society:—

Dr. A. T. SCHOFIELD, *Chairman of the Executive Committee.*

A. C. P. COOTE, Esq., *Vice-Chairman.*

JAMES GORDON, Esq., Bradford Old Bank, Bradford, *Treasurer.*

Miss MASON, *Hon. Secretary,*

HENRY PERRIN, Esq., *Hon. Organizing Secretary in London.*

7.—The Bankers of the Union shall be the Bradford Old Bank, Limited, Bradford, and Subscriptions shall be made payable at that Bank, or any of its Branches, or at Lloyds Bank, Limited, London, 72, Lombard Street, E.C., and 54, St. James Street, S.W., or any of its Branches.

8.—The Executive Committee shall be empowered to add to the number of Vice-Presidents and of Members of the Central Council. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the Council annually, but the members shall be eligible for re-election. Three Members of the Executive Council shall form a *quorum*.

9.—The Central Council, of which the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and the Executive Committee shall be members, shall meet once a year to receive reports of work done and progress made in the past year, and to advise as to new departures, &c.

10.—The Executive Committee shall meet quarterly, or more often if summoned on urgent business connected with the Society, and shall make any needful bye-laws.

11.—One member of each Local Branch shall represent it at the meeting of the Central Council as an *ex-officio* member.



12.—Branches of the Society shall be free to organise themselves and make their own local bye-laws, a copy of which shall be sent up to the Executive Committee of the Central Council.

13.—The Secretaries of Branches shall prepare and send to the General Secretary, previous to the meeting of the Central Council, a report of work done in the Branch during the year.

#### FINANCE.

14.—Not less than five shillings a year, to cover both heads of a household, shall be the subscription of Members of Branches. Members subscribing not less than ten shillings per annum shall be entitled to receive monthly a copy of "The Parents' Review" (published at 6d.)

15.—Ten shillings a year shall be the subscription of Members of the Central Council.

16.—The annual fee of one guinea shall be paid by each Local Branch to the general Treasurer of the Society.

17.—Subscriptions and fees shall fall due on the 1st of January of each year, and shall be sent in to the Treasurer. In the case of Local Branches, subscriptions shall be paid to the Local Treasurer on January 1st, or at the next meeting following the date when they fall due.

18.—Subscriptions to the Central Fund are invited. Such subscriptions should be paid in to the Treasurer, or to one of the banks above named.

THE

## Parents' National Educational Union.

### GENERAL ANNUAL REPORT,

JUNE, 1892.

BEFORE presenting a Report for the past year, the Committee think it may be of use to state over again a few of the considerations which originally led to the formation of the Society (1888):—

1.—No other part of the world's work is of such supreme difficulty, delicacy and importance, as that of parents in the right bring up of their children.

2.—The first obligation of the present—that of passing forward a generation better than ourselves—rests with parents.

3.—As every child belongs to the Commonweal, so his bringing up is the concern of all.

4.—Yet parents, with the responsibility of the world's future resting upon them, are left to do their work, each father and mother alone, rarely getting so much as a word of sympathy, counsel, or encouragement.

5.—All other bodies of workers, whether of hand or brain, enjoy the help and profit of association; commonly, of co-operation. Thus the wisdom, the experience, the information of each is made profitable for all; enthusiasm is generated by the union of many for the advance of a cause, and every member is cheered by the sympathy of his fellow workers.

6.—More, association makes it possible to organise means of instruction—lectures, libraries, classes, journals, &c. It creates an ever higher public opinion, which puts down casual, un-instructed work, and sets a premium on good work, and it gives an impetus to steady progress as opposed to spasmodic efforts.



7.—But parents are outside of all this. They, who must do the vital part of the world's work, compare at a disadvantage with all other skilled workers, whether of hand or brain. There is a literature of its own for almost every craft and profession; while you may count on the fingers of one hand the scientific works on early training plain and practical enough to be of use to parents. There are no colleges, associations, classes, lectures for parents, or those of an age to become parents; no register of the discoveries—physical or psychological—in child-nature, which should make education a light task; no record of successful treatment of the sullen, the heedless, the disobedient child; none of the experience of wise parents; there is hardly a standard of beautiful child-life (reduced to words, that is,) towards which parents can work. There is little means of raising public opinion on the subject of home training, nor of bringing such opinion to bear. Every young mother must begin at the beginning to work out for herself the problems of education, with no more than often misleading traditions for her guidance. One reason for this anomaly is, that the home is a sanctuary, where prying and intermeddling from without would be intolerable; and, without doubt, the practices of each home are sacred, matters between each family and Him who maketh men to be of one mind in an house. But the *principles* of early training are another matter; and there is no more helpful work to be done than to bring these principles to the doors of parents of whatever degree.

8.—*The time is ripe for efforts in this direction.* How cordially parents welcome any effort in this direction, one has but to try to be convinced. There is a feeling abroad that it does not do to bring up children casually; that there are certain natural laws—better named Divine laws—which must be worked out in order to produce human beings at their best, in body, mind, moral nature, and spiritual power. It is no easy matter to get at these laws, and parents demand thorough ventilation, at least, of the questions that concern them. For people are beginning to perceive how lamentable and universal are the miseries arising from *defective education*. Most of us are aware of some infirmity of flesh or spirit, a life-long stumbling-block, which might have been easily cured in our childhood. It is

not too much to say that, in the light of advancing science, many of the infirmities that beset us, whether of heart, intellect, or temper, are the results of defective education.

9.—*The New Education.* "The training of children," says Mr. Herbert Spencer, "physical, moral, intellectual, is dreadfully *defective*. And in great measure it is so because parents are devoid of that knowledge by which alone this training can be rightly guided. . . . Some acquaintance with the principles of physiology and the elementary truths of psychology is indispensable for the right bringing up of children." These two sciences have been making steady advances since the writing of these weighty words. This is, shortly, where we are to-day; the principle which underlies the *possibility* of all education is discovered to us: we are taught that the human frame, brain as well as muscle, *grows to the uses it is earliest put to*. It is hardly possible to get beyond the ground covered by this simple-sounding axiom; that is, it is hardly open to us to overstate the possibilities of education, nor to say what may be made of a child by those who first get him into their hands. We find that we can work definitely towards the formation of character; that the *habits* of the good life, of the alert intelligence, which we take pains to form in the child, are, somehow, registered in the very substance of his brain; and that the habits of the child result in the character of the man. Therefore, we set ourselves to form a habit in the same matter-of-fact steady way that we set about teaching the multiplication table.

"Sow an act, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character;  
sow a character, reap a destiny,"—*Thackeray*.

10.—This doctrine of the physiology of habit, hardly as yet common property, promises to give so great an impetus towards "Progress in character and worthiness" that its recognition is a new departure in education—practically "The New Education."

But this doctrine of habit, all important as it is, includes no more than a third part of the ground covered by education. Parents are very jealous over the individuality of their children; they mistrust the tendency to develop all on the same plan; and this instinctive jealousy is right; for supposing that



education really did consist in systematised effort to draw out every power that is in children, all must needs develop on the same lines. Some of us have an uneasy sense that things are tending towards this deadly sameness. But, indeed, the fear is groundless. We may rest assured that the personality, the individuality of each of us is too dear to God, and too necessary to a complete humanity, to be left at the mercy of empirics.

11.—The problem of education is more complex than it seems at first sight, and well for us and the world that it is so. "Education is a life;" you may stunt, and starve and kill, or you may cherish and sustain; but the beating of the heart, the movement of the lungs, and the development of the faculties are only indirectly our care.

12.—The happy phrase of Mr. Matthew Arnold—which we have appropriated as the motto of the *Parents' Review*—is, perhaps, the most complete and adequate definition of education we possess. It is a great thing to have said "Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life;" and our wiser posterity may see in that "profound and exquisite remark" the fruition of a lifetime of critical effort. It covers the question from the three conceivable points of view. Subjectively, in the child, education is a life; objectively, as affecting the child, education is a discipline; relatively, if we may introduce a third term, as regards the environment of the child, education is an atmosphere.

13.—The whole subject is profound, but as practical as it is profound. We absolutely must disabuse our minds of the theory that the functions of education are, in the main, gymnastic. In the early years of the child's life it makes, perhaps, little apparent difference whether his parents start with the notion that to educate is to fill a receptacle, inscribe a tablet, mould plastic matter, or, *nourish a life*; but in the end we shall find that only those *ideas* which have fed his life are taken into the being of the child; all else is thrown away, or worse, is an impediment and an injury to the vital processes.

14.—This is, perhaps, how the educational formula should run: Education is a life; all life must have its appropriate nourishment, as the bodily life is sustained on bread, so is the

spiritual life on *ideas*; and it is the duty of parents to sustain a child's inner life with ideas as they sustain its body with food. The child is an eclectic; he may choose this or that; therefore, in the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand, for thou knowest not which shall prosper, whether this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good.

The child has affinities with evil as well as with good; therefore, hedge him about from any chance lodgment of evil suggestion.

The initial idea begets subsequent ideas; therefore, take care that children get right primary ideas on the great relations and duties of life.

Every study, every line of thought, has its "guiding idea;" therefore the study of a child makes for living education, as it is quickened by the guiding idea which "stands at the head."

In a word, our much boasted "infallible reason"—is it not the involuntary thought which follows the initial idea upon necessary, logical lines? Given, the starting idea, and the conclusion may be predicated almost to a certainty. We get into the *way* of thinking such and such manner of thoughts, and of coming to such and such conclusions, ever further and further removed from the starting point, but on the same lines. There is structural adaptation in the brain tissue to the manner of thoughts we think—a place and a way for them to run in. Thus we see how the destiny of a life is shaped in the nursery, by the reverent naming of the Divine Name; by the light scoff at holy things; by the thought of duty the little child gets who is made to finish conscientiously his little task; by the hardness of heart that comes to the child who hears the faults or sorrows of others spoken of lightly.

15.—The teaching of Hygiene to all women as a normal part of their education being strongly felt to be the only basis of all good physical work amongst children has been adopted as one of the fundamental principles of this Society.

16.—The above is a very imperfect digest of these principles of education which it is the object of the Parents' National Educational Union and its various agencies to propagate and further.



REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL  
OF THE  
**Parents' National Educational Union**  
FOR  
1891-2.

THE Central Council of the Parents' National Educational Union have much pleasure in reporting that this year has been on the whole one of marked progress. A large number of influential names and warm sympathizers have been added to the list of Vice-Presidents and Council. The Executive Committee has been re-organized—Dr. SCHOFIELD, whose work in connection with Hygiene and Child Culture is well known, being Chairman, and H. PERRIN, Esq., Hon. Organizing Secretary.

Miss Mason's visit to London in Lent was most helpful to the Society. Her various lectures on the training of children—held in the mornings at Hyde Park Court, Albert Gate, by the invitation of Mrs. Dallas Yorke, and in the afternoon at the Polytechnic—were much appreciated. The series was brought to a close by a sympathetic meeting at the Duchess of Portland's when the work of the Union as well as of the kindred agencies of the *House of Education* and *Parents' Review School* were brought forward.

The following brief account is from the *Parents' Review* for May.

"A large drawing-room meeting, by the kind invitation of Her Grace, the Duchess of Portland, at her house in Grosvenor Square, gave opportunity to bring our work before Ladies in

society; and the sympathetic response was very cheering. Sir Douglas Galton occupied the chair, and said he was interested in the House of Education, as offering a desirable training to, and opening a career for, girls who have been educated at the various High Schools in the country. The active part Sir Douglas Galton takes in the direction of the schools under the Public Day Schools' Company makes his sympathy and co-operation very valuable.

"Dr. Schofield, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Duchess, made some remarks on the educational movement, of which the P.N.E.U., the *Parents' Review*, and the House of Education are among the outcomes. Dr. Schofield considers that the development of Mr. Matthew Arnold's definition. 'Education' is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life,' offers a very scientific and practical idea of education. He remarked that he was led to interest himself in the matter through a casual introduction to a number of the *Parents' Review*. He ordered the whole, and made a careful study of its teaching, with the result that he has thrown himself heartily into what he recognises as a great work. The gain to the movement in the adhesion of so able and active an educationist and man of science is very great.

"Her Grace's few words in response were not the least charming part of a 'function' which should be of great service to our cause. It is delightful that a lady whose own nursery is ordered so perfectly should identify herself with our work.

"Another large and influential meeting was held, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Gordon, at her house in Prince's Gate, especially in the interests of the House of Education. Dr. Barnardo's serious and helpful words added much to the interest and value of the meeting.

"Dr. Schofield has kindly consented to accept the (honorary) office of Examining Physician to the House of Education. Under his direction, the students will qualify for the diploma of the *National Health Society* in Physiology, Hygiene, and Nursing, as part of their certificate of fitness for the care of children, physical, intellectual, and moral."



The following Lectures delivered during the past year at various Centres are taken from the Reports sent in by the various Branches. The titles of the Lectures are given in full as shewing the varied "menu" offered by the Society to its Members:—

### Parents' National Educational Union, 1891-2.

#### HAMPSTEAD AND ST. JOHN'S WOOD.

Jan., 1891.—Lecturer: Mrs. ORMISTON CHANT, "The Books our Children Like, and Why."

Feb.—Lecturer: Miss HELEN WEBB, M.B., "The Making, Storing, and Distributing of Nerve Force." Chairman: Dr. W. NEALE.

Mar.—Lecturer: Mr. A. H. TUBBY, M.B., M.S. (Lond), "Heredity." Chairman: Dr. EADY.

April.—Lecturer: Mr. MARK WILKS, Junr., "The Effects of the Examination System." Chairman: Dr. ALFRED SCHOFIELD.

" Lecturer: (To Men only) Mr. A. H. TUBBY, M.S., M.B., "Heredity."

May.—Papers by Miss LOUISA DREWRY and Mr. E. B. CUMBERLAND, B.A., B.Sc., on "Rewards and Punishments." Chairman: E. KELL BLYTH, Esq.

June.—Lecturer: Miss FULLER, "Kindergarten Training." Chairman: Rev. Canon DUCKWORTH, D.D.

Oct.—Lecturer: Rev. E. A. ABBOTT, D.D., "The Co-operation of Parents and Teachers." Chairman: Professor HALES.

Nov.—Lecturer: Rev. J. R. DIGGLE, "Responsibilities of Parents."

Dec.—Lecturer: Mrs. SOPHIE BRYANT, D. Sc., "How to Dress our Children."

" Lecturer: Rev. J. KIRKMAN, "The Value of Natural History in the Training of Children."

Feb., 1892.—Lecturer: Dr. EADY, "The Early Training of Children."

Mar.—Lecturer: Rev. E. A. ABBOTT, D.D., "The Use of the Old Testament in Teaching Children."

" Lecturer: Mrs. J. SPENCER CURWEN, "How shall we make Music Interesting to Children."

April.—Lecturer: Miss HELEN WEBB, M.B., "The Physical Development of Children and some Simple Means of Testing its Progress."

May.—Lecturer: Mrs. FRANCES STEINTHAL, "Art in the Nursery." Chairman: Mr. HENRY HOLIDAY.

The following paragraphs are extracted from the original Draft of the Parents' National Educational Union.

4.—*Parents' Sunday.* Efforts will be made to secure the first Sunday after Christmas Day as a PARENTS' SUNDAY, to give opportunity for words of counsel to parents from as many pulpits as the Union may be able to reach.

5.—*Branch Libraries.* It should be one object of each Local Branch to form a Parents' Library; that is, to collect, add to from time to time, and bring under the notice of its members such plain and practical works on the early training of children as should be of use to parents.

The Hampstead and St. John's Wood Branch have succeeded in forming a Branch Library, under the management of Miss Emily Begg, and this Branch is also making efforts to secure a "Parents' Sunday."

#### BELGRAVIA AND WESTMINSTER BRANCH.

Feb., 1891.—Lecturer: Miss EMILY LORD, "The Early Training of Children, Kindergarten Methods." Rev. G. H. ELLISON, Vicar of S. Gabriel's, in Chair.

Dec.—Lecturer: Miss HELEN WEBB, M.B., "The Formation of Habit," at Mrs. LOCKWOOD's, 26, Lennox Gardens.

Jan., 1892.—Discussion of Herbert Spencer's "Essay on Education," at Mrs. CLEMENT MARKHAM's, 21, Eccleston Square.



Feb.—Lecturer: Dr. HANDFIELD JONES, F.R.C.P., F.R.S.,  
"The Physical Education of Young People," at  
the MARCHIONESS OF RIPON'S, 9, Chelsea Em-  
bankment.

March—Lecturer: Mrs. ORMISTON CHANT, "The Books our  
Children Like, and Why," at Mrs. PERCIVAL'S, 24,  
Chester Square.

April—Lecturer: Miss FRANKS, "The Kindergarten as a System  
of early Training," at Rev. J. H. ELLISON'S, 4,  
Warwick Square.

May—Lecturer: A. H. TUBBY, Esq., M.B., M.S. (Lond.),  
"Heredity," at Mrs. GUY PYM'S, 35, Cranley  
Gardens.

May—Lecturer: Rev. PREBENDARY EYTON, "The Religious  
Education of Young People," at Lady SMITH'S, 66,  
Cadogan Square.

#### LEEDS

March, 1892.—By invitation of the Yorkshire Ladies' Council  
of Education. Lecturer: Miss C. MASON, "Parents'  
National Educational Union," at the High School  
for Girls.

April.—Meeting at which it was resolved that the Leeds  
Branch should undertake the study of some work  
on education. Mrs. BOYD CARPENTER has kindly  
accepted an invitation to address the next Meeting.

#### GLOUCESTER.

Jan. 1892.—Lecturer: The Rev. Canon PARKER, "Discipline."

March, 1892.—Lecturer: Miss C. MASON, "Some difficulties  
in the early training of Children." Chairman: Rev.  
Canon PARKER.

#### BRISTOL.

March, 1892.—Lecturer: Miss C. MASON, "The bringing up of  
Children in view of some present day problems."  
Chairman: Professor LLOYD MORGAN. At Uni-  
versity College.

#### BRADFORD.

Feb. 1891.—Lecturer: Mr. OSCAR BROWNING, "The Place of  
Greek in Modern Education."

March.—Lecturer: Mr. T. G. ROOPER, H.M.I., "Domestic and  
Boarding School Education."

Dec.—Lecturer: ARTHUR BURRELL, M.A., "Recitation for  
Children."

Feb. 1892.—Lecturer: Mr. T. G. ROOPER, H.M.I., "Mothers  
and Sons: the Religious difficulty."

March.—Lecturer: Miss T. TOLIR KINGSLEY, "Art and Edu-  
cation."

April.—Lecturer: Miss C. M. MASON, "Punishment."  
Chairman at each Lecture, the Rev. W. H. KEELING,  
M.B., Head Master of the Bradford Grammar  
School.

#### ALTRINGHAM AND BOWDEN BRANCH, P.N.E.U.

Feb., 1891.—Lecturer: Rev. F. Wainwright, M.A., "Character  
and what to do with it, from an Educational point  
of view: how to elicit, educate and develop it."

March - Lecturer: Dr. DENNISTON, "The Physical Rearing of  
Children with reference to Air, Exercise, Bathing, &c."

Dec.—Lecturer: Miss THOMAS, "Dress and Exercise for  
Children."

Jan. 1892.—Lecturer: Rev. W. M. LUTENER, "Education."

#### READING.

Feb 1892.—Lecturer: Miss HELEN WEBB, M.B., "The Forma-  
tion of Habit." Chairman: Rev. CANON PAYNE.

March—Lecturer: Miss MASON, "Parents' National Educa-  
tional Union." Chairman: W. J. PALMER, Esq.

#### KENDAL.

Feb. 1892.—Lecturer: The Hon. Mrs. CROPPER, "The Religious  
Training of Children."



**SHEFFIELD.**

July, 1891—Lecturer: Mrs. WOODHOUSE, "Some Recent Authors on Physical Training."

Oct.—Lecturer: Mr. T. G. ROOPER, H.M.I., "Reverence."

Nov.—Lecturer: Mr. T. G. ROOPER, H.M.I., "Nursery Ethics."

It was suggested at the close of this meeting that members should send in the names of books that they could recommend: (1) as help to the study of child-nature; (2) as literature for children.

March, 1892.—Lecturer: Rev. T. L. WITHINGTON, "Children's Literature, French and English."

**BOURNEMOUTH.**

Feb., Mar., 1891—Lecturer: Miss E. A. BARNETT (Authoress of *New Life, its Genesis and Culture*), Six Lectures on the "Hygiene of Childhood."

**AMBLESIDE.**

April, 1891-2—Lecture: "The Principles of the Parents' National Educational Union," by Miss MASON, to the Ladies' Committee for Boarding out Pauper Children.

**CHELTENHAM.**

Feb., 1891—Lecturer: Miss BEALE, "The Science of Time."

**FOREST GATE.**

Jan., 1891—Lecturer: Miss E. A. BARNETT, "The Work of the Parents' National Educational Union and its Important Future."

Drawing-room meetings with a view to initiate branches were held at the following places, and were addressed by the Gen. Hon. Sec.:—

WEST NORWOOD, March 28th.—By the kindness of Miss MASON.

STREATHAM HILL, March 30th.—By the kindness of Mrs. STEWART-MACKAY.

WOOLWICH, April 30th.—By the kindness of Mrs. DAVIS.

SNARES BROOK, April 2nd.—By the kindness of Mrs. SPEDDING-CURWEN.

Most of these meetings were attended by large and sympathetic audiences, and will, we hope, lead to the formation of active branches in suburbs of London, where the merchant and professional classes congregate.

*A Daughter Society, the N.S.W. Parents Educational Union has been formed during the past year. The following Report of Meeting at Sydney will be read with interest.*

**SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.**

A public Meeting was held on June 11th, 1891, to consider the necessity for forming Parents' Unions. The most Rev. the Primate presided, and many clergymen and other influential persons were present.

The Primate remarked that "The Family rearing underlies all moral and social developments."

The Rev. Dr. Corlette moved the first resolution, "That this meeting believing the family to be the basis of society, is of opinion that many of the evils which threaten society at the present day may be traced back to the neglect by parents of their parental duties."

Mr. H. B. Weyall moved the following resolution: "That this Meeting desires to affirm the urgent necessity for awakening parents to a sense of their parental obligations, and for assisting them by every possible means in the discharge of such obligations."

The Rev. H. L. Jackson (who for five years has been working to promote the cause) moved, "That this Meeting desires to recommend the formation of Parents' Unions similar in principle to those which exist in England and elsewhere." Mr. Jackson observed that "the Parents' Union is, in a word, the practical recognition of the parents' needs. Many parents need to be aroused from indifference to a sense of their responsibilities.—In the words of Professor Seeley: '*Too many parents abdicate.*' We parents who are already awake to our duties feel strongly the need of more knowledge for their adequate discharge, and we must be ready to *learn* from those who have made Education in one or other of its many aspects their special study, and must help one another and be ready to receive help from others. A great deal of knowledge is to be







## THE PARENTS' REVIEW.

MOTTO.—"EDUCATION IS AN ATMOSPHERE, A DISCIPLINE, A LIFE."

—Matthew Arnold

The monthly organ of the Parents' National Educational Union, should not only be taken in, but industriously circulated by all Members. The *Parents' Review* has recently emerged from a crisis in its history, and has not yet reached that enviable stage in its career when it becomes self-supporting. This is the critical stage for all magazines, and the more so for the *Parents' Review*, because it occupies an advanced outpost in educational thought, not tempting to publishers, not tempting to capitalists, not tempting to the general public, but possibly demanding the strenuous support of all who are in sympathy with such teaching as it affords. The Capital of the Founder was exhausted, and the circulation did not pay the publishers. It became necessary to raise a subsidy of £150 for the publishers to secure them from loss during the current year.

The necessity of the *Review* has been made the opportunity of its friends. The response to our appeal for help was enthusiastic. The publishers, in spite of the fact that they are losing by it, wrote: "We can most cordially say, that both on literary and social grounds, the *Review* is one with which we feel it an honour to be associated."—(Kegan, Paul, Trench and Co.) "It would be a real loss to the country if it should be discontinued," wrote our always kind friends—Lord and Lady Aberdeen; and many parents, who welcome the *Parents' Review* as a messenger of leading and light, are enthusiastic in their expressions of sympathy and appreciation. The necessity for effort in securing further subscribers is urged upon all friends of the cause. The "*Parents' Review*" is a development of the "*Pamphlets for Parents*" of the original scheme.

The following Notice is extracted from the number of the *Parents' Review* for April, 1891.

"Our readers will be glad to know that at last we have a Magazine for cottage reading, which should correspond with the *Parents' Review*, for more educated homes. "*Onward and Upward*" is a quite charming penny monthly magazine, edited by Lady Aberdeen, President of the P.N.E.U. The Secretaries of Branches will be glad to know that the Editor is having a special edition prepared for P.N.E.U. circulation, which is necessary, because "*Onward and Upward*" was issued in the first place for Lady Aberdeen's "Haddo House Association." Here mothers will find wise counsels as to the bringing up of their families, and the warm loving tone, and the simple, manful Christianity breathed in the publication, must needs have a healthy influence on the home." (Partridge and Co.)



# THE HOUSE OF EDUCATION, AMBLESIDE.

MOTTO.—"FOR THE CHILDREN'S SAKE."

## PATRONESSES:

Her Grace The DUCHESS OF PORTLAND.	The Hon. Lady WELBY.
The MARCHIONESS OF GRANBY.	The Lady MARY WOOD.
The MARCHIONESS OF STAFFORD.	The Lady HASTINGS.
The COUNTESS OF ERROLL.	The Lady KINNAIRD.
The COUNTESS OF NORTHESK.	The Lady MACPHERSON GRANT.
The COUNTESS OF ABERDEEN.	Mrs. BOYD CARPENTER.
The COUNTESS OF DUDLEY.	Mrs. CARUS-WILSON.
The Lady MARGARET GRAHAM.	Mrs. DALLAS-YORKE.
The Lady CICELY GATHORNE HARDY.	Mrs. GORDON.
The VISCOUNTESS OF FOLKESTONE.	Mrs. GRENFELL.
The VISCOUNTESS OF NEWPORT.	Mrs. SCHOFIELD.
The Lady ALICE ARCHER HOUBLON.	Mrs. STEINTHAL.

Principal: MISS CHARLOTTE M. MASON.

The following is an extract from the first draft of the scheme of the Parents' National Educational Union:—

2.—*Governesses, &c.* The earnest mother is often hampered in her work by an inefficient governess. "I want a governess on whose judgment I may rely, for I have had no experience in the training of children," expresses the feeling of many perplexed young mothers. There is a near prospect that the Union will be able to establish a HOUSE OF EDUCATION, where young ladies who have left school; ladies proposing to teach in families; and, under different arrangements, young women qualifying for nursemaids, shall be taught:—

- (a) The laws of health;
- (b) The right ordering of a nursery and home school-room;
- (c) The principles which underlie the moral and mental growth of a child, and how to train him according to his nature;
- (d) The most rapid and rational methods of teaching;
- (e) And, especially, how to train a child's senses by means of out of door work, by teaching him to know, name, and delight in natural objects.

This part of the scheme is in operation at the present moment in THE HOUSE OF EDUCATION at Ambleside.

Further thought on the subject has made it evident that the culture and refinement of a lady should play an important part in the earliest training of children. Therefore *ladies* are being trained both for nurses and governesses: the difference being—that in the latter case higher attainments are exacted from the student on entering.

The Students are studying Physiology, Hygiene and Nursing, to qualify them for the Diploma of the "National Health Society," under the direction of Dr. Schofield. Dr. Johnston (Ambleside) is good enough to give a weekly Lecture on Hygiene. Nursing is taught by a trained and certificated District Nurse, under whose instructions the Students bandage, make poultices, change sheets, and learn to do the practical work of a sick-room.

Moral and mental science, and the theory and practice of Education are taught by the Principal on the lines indicated in "*Home Education*." The Institution has great advantages in the way of Model and Practising Schools. Nursery management is studied in the Class Room, and practised in the homes of such kind families in Ambleside and elsewhere, as kindly receive the Students for this purpose.

Oral French is made a special study. The Students learn to say and sing a large store of French Songs and Tales at the lips of a Parisian lady who does not speak English. This is to secure a pure accent, and free and ready use of French vocables.

Story-telling is studied as an art and the Students are equipped with a good store of tales and anecdotes of heroes, of animals, Greek legends, British legends, Fairy Tales, &c., and especially Bible stories. They learn also to sing and recite such hymns, songs and poems as should make twilight delightful to children. Nature Lore receives much attention. The Students are studying Botany, and collecting and learning the ways of the flowers of the field. Birds, and landscapes as affected by geological formations, physical geography, &c., are included in their Syllabus. Needlework is taught on the French system, and children's garments are made. Kindergarten games and occupations are taught by a mistress trained under Madame Michaelis; Swedish Drill, by a lady holding the Certificate of



the Physical Training College, London, and Drawing, both to amuse children and to teach them, by a mistress holding Mr. Ablett's among her other certificates.

For what we may call the moral appreciation of Art, we are indebted to Mrs. Firth—a disciple and friend of Ruskin—who is good enough to give weekly lectures to the students, abundantly illustrated by photographs, etc., of the Italian and other works of art to which Ruskin has attached a moral and spiritual interpretation. Mrs. F. Steinthal kindly undertakes to teach Home Arts—modelling in clay, bent iron work, brass work and basket making—so that the students should be able to teach their pupils delightful manual occupations. Besides the facilities which it offers for teaching Nature Lore, Ambleside affords peculiar advantages in the way of most kind voluntary help from ladies and gentlemen who are specialists in their several subjects.

The annual holiday of the Governess or "*Tante*" (Nurse) need cause no inconvenience to the mother of a family, as a Student in training will be provided to take her place and carry on her work, and thus gain experience.

#### SYLLABUS OF THE HOUSE OF EDUCATION.

In addition to the staff of duly qualified Instructors, ladies and gentlemen, specialists in their several subjects, are good enough to volunteer their aid for (honorary) lectures, weekly, or at longer intervals.

The OBJECT of the HOUSE OF EDUCATION is to provide for Women a special Training in the knowledge and the principles which belong to their peculiar work, namely, the *Bringing-up of Children*.

It is needless to enlarge on the value of training in giving impulse and direction as well as knowledge and power; and a year's work on special lines should be of incalculable service not only to future mothers, but to all women, whose natural function it is to have the care of children.

The Students of the HOUSE OF EDUCATION are:

- (a) Ladies (young ladies especially) who undergo training to enable them to fulfil the more intelligently the calling of motherhood, or other guardianship of children to which they may be called. These need pass no preliminary examination.
- (b) Ladies who are, or who wish to become, governesses to older children. These should hold certificates of attainments. They will gain at the HOUSE OF EDUCATION knowledge of the principles of *Character-training*, of the laws of *Health and Physical Development* etc., etc.
- (c) "*Tante*."\* Ladies who are carefully trained for the good work of the early bringing up of children. These need not hold certificates of attainments but must pass an easy entrance examination, and must satisfy the Principal (or one of the Patronesses) that they are healthy, earnest, educated women of refinement and culture.†

Certificates, signed by the authorities of the HOUSE OF EDUCATION, will be awarded to successful Students at the close of the year's Training.

Students may enter at the beginning of either term.

Training Fee for the year £10. A low fee is fixed that no lover of children need be shut out by the cost of training.

A responsible lady takes supervision of each Boarding House. These are:

- A.—Board and Lodgings 20 guineas a year. This house is intended for Students who propose to teach and cannot afford heavy costs of training.
- B.—A house in the arrangements of which strict economy is less necessary: Board and Lodgings £35 or £55 a year, according as a student has a room to herself or shares it with another.

Other Houses will be added as they are found necessary.

The HOUSE OF EDUCATION is not under one roof. The Building containing lecture hall and class-rooms is distinct from the Boarding-houses.

The HOUSE OF EDUCATION CERTIFICATE guarantees that a Student possesses:

- 1.—Knowledge of human physiology and of nursing, such as will fit her to take intelligent care of children in health, and to give intelligent help in sickness.

\* GERMAN, with two syllables. See description in PARENTS' REVIEW for September 1891.

† Mrs. Gordon, 61, Princes Gate, S.W., will interview intending Students for whom London is a convenient centre.



- 2.—Knowledge of the principles of Education (as they are sketched out in *Home Education*, Kegan Paul & Co.)
- 3.—Knowledge of the "nature-lore" children should possess.
- 4.—Knowledge of the subjects of instruction proper for children, and of the right method and order of teaching each.

The HOUSE OF EDUCATION CERTIFICATE will be awarded only when the Student shows herself possessed of the—to adapt a phrase—enthusiasm of childhood, which makes all work of teaching and training heart-service done for God.

There are two terms in the YEAR OF TRAINING :

The "LONG TERM," from the middle of January till the beginning of July.

The "SHORT TERM," from the end of September till near Christmas.

The interest felt in this movement is so wide-spread that it will probably not be possible to supply the demand for "*Tante*," and Governesses, &c., at the end of our first year's work (Dec. 1892). Earnest and well-bred young people who are looking out for *good work* are entreated to offer themselves for training. The need of devoted co-workers in their labour of love is grievously felt by Mothers, especially by some of those of the upper classes whose engagements press heavily upon them.

APPLY TO THE SECRETARY,  
HOUSE OF EDUCATION,  
AMBLESIDE.

## THE PARENTS' REVIEW SCHOOL.

MOTTO.—"I AM, I CAN, I OUGHT, I WILL."

Fresh branches should be founded in their own neighbourhoods by ladies interested in the Union, and the House of Education and Parents' Review School should diligently be made known. The value of the former in supplying trained governesses and the latter in giving such a fixed curriculum and examinations only require to be known to be employed. The Parents' Review School seem to combine the advantages of school training with those of private and individual teaching.

The Parents' Review School is extending its work, and becoming better known to the public.

The objects of the Parents' Review School are to help parents whose children are taught at home, by mother or governess, in the following ways :—

- (a) To secure a common standard of attainment, so that the home-taught child shall be equal to the rest when he goes to school.
- (b) To do this without sacrificing individual development, and the following of the bent of each child's tastes and powers.
- (c) To introduce good methods and good text-books into the home school-room.
- (d) To foster the habits of attention, punctuality, diligence, promptness, and the power of doing given work in a given time.
- (e) To secure the gain of definite work upon a given syllabus, without the danger of "cram," and with freedom in the choice of subjects.
- (f) To test and encourage the home-school from term to term by examinations, testing intelligent knowledge rather than verbal memory.
- (g) To give the home-taught child those advantages of comparison with others and of periodic classification which the school-taught child possesses.
- (h) In a word, while increasing rather than diminishing the leisure of the home-taught child, to counteract any dawdling, dilatory, procrastinating habits which put him at a disadvantage as compared with the smarter school-child.

This help is given in the following ways :—

"Preliminary questions" are sent to a mother framed to ascertain the physical and mental development as well as the attainments of each child. Upon the answers to these, the children are classified, and a programme of work for a term is sent for the children in each class, together with time-tables, "suggestions" as to method of teaching and books to be used, and the "Rules" of the School. At the end of a term the children's work is tested by a little examination, which is carried on under such regulations as these :—

- 1.—Examination to occupy a full school week. Each subject to be examined upon in its own time. In Classes i. and ii., each subject to last from 5 to 10 minutes in one day; in Class iii. and upwards, to last the time allowed in the time-table. Examination to begin on December 15th.



- 2.—*Recitations* (English), two each day, to be heard by the father when convenient, he giving marks, from 1 to 5, for each piece.
- 3.—The Parents should, if possible, be present at the oral parts of the examination.
- 4.—Their examinations should afford moral training to the children and should be conducted with absolute probity. Worry and excitement should be discouraged. Order, quietness, and cheerfulness, should be maintained.

The fees for this kind of supervision are :—1 guinea a year for a family of children under 10 years of age, 3 guineas where there are children over 10, because of the greater amount of clerical work, which must be done by highly-qualified teachers. For direction, which implies that the work of the children is set and examined month by month, a fee of 5 guineas is charged. The experience of two terms shows extremely satisfactory results. The children enjoy the stimulus from without, which relieves the tedium of the home school-room, while the governess (or mother) finds it satisfactory to have set work to be accomplished in a given time, and to receive suggestions as to methods and books. There are already 59 families under supervision, and one under direction, including about 150 pupils of very various ages and attainments, from little children who are not yet learning to read, to girls who do equal work in the history and literature of three languages.

*The Fésole Club.*—conducted by W. G. Collingwood Esq. Head Lane, Coniston, Lancashire, Universities' Extension Lecturer, &c., a Club for the study of Water Colour Drawing according to the laws of Fésole, as set forth by Ruskin. Excellent work has been done in this Club.

The Prize work of the year has been done by Miss Edith Erskine Crum. The prize was awarded by Arthur Severn Esq., R.I. Eleven Students have taken provisional certificates.

*Der Bücherbund.*—Conducted by Miss Elsa d'Esterre Keeling, (41, Holland Road, South Kensington,) a Club for the study of German literature highly valued by the students. Subject for this year—Germany's Four Great Poets.

*Mothers' Education Course.*—A course of study for mothers, in Education, Physiology, and Hygiene is now beginning

Arrangements have been made for the ladies who take this course to obtain the Diploma of the National Health Society. Dr. Schofield's three volumes on Physiology, and personal domestic Hygiene are used. The Education Diploma to be given after this course will certify some knowledge of moral and mental science, education theoretical and practical, and of nature lore. Besides the small annual subscription in each case, it is necessary that members of the P.R. School, the Fésole Club, der Bücherbund and Mothers' Education Course Club, should take in the *Parents' Review*, and where possible become members of a Branch of the Parents' National Educational Union.

Miss Mason's "*Home Education*" (Kegan, Paul, Trench and Co.,—3/6) giving as it does the foundation on which the Union rests should be read by every member.

The following letter is an interesting indication of how far these principles of the Parents' National Educational Union are spreading.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF VERNACULAR INSTRUCTION,  
BARODA, INDIA,

10th March, 1892.

MADAME,

The publication of your work styled "*Home Education*" is a worthy and valuable attempt for imparting the necessary knowledge in rearing up young children. Just as the book is a useful guide and help to the English speaking community, it promises to be equally useful to the Hindu community, if it could be published in Marathi and Gujarathi. I have therefore to request you to be good enough to grant me permission to translate your work, and thus allow me to extend the benefits of the same to people in this part of India.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

I remain,

Yours truly,

CHHAGANLAL T. MODI, B.A.

Assistant to the Director of Vernacular Instruction,  
BARODA STATE, BARODA.



p33 cmc 212

PARENTS' NATIONAL  
EDUCATIONAL UNION.

The Report for 1893,

TOGETHER WITH

A Brief Account

OF THE

HOUSE OF EDUCATION.

AND

Parents' Review School.





THE PARENTS'  
National Educational Union.

—\*—  
ANNUAL REPORT,  
JUNE, 1893.

—\*—  
“How shall we order the child”?

“The child is father to the man.”

“Ce n'est que le premier pas qui coûte.”

“Our national wealth has increased, our political liberty has increased, our knowledge of natural laws has increased enormously; but our national virtue and intelligence have not increased *pari passu*. . . . What progress, except progress in character and virtue, is worth calling progress?”  
—*The Religious Thought of our Time*.—Rev. J. M. WILSON, M.A.

“Our chief social, and in the end, political danger is the wreck of domestic life among our people.”—CARDINAL MANNING.

“The relation of Parent and Child carries with it that which no external power can create, and which no external power can destroy. . . . This truth of the eternal majesty of authority, of the eternal loveliness of reverent obedience, commended to us still in our childhood, is not the least precious part of our social heritage as Englishmen.”—*Social Aspects of Christianity*.—BISHOP OF DURHAM.



P34cmc 272

# Parents' National Educational Union.

## PRESIDENTS:

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF ABERDEEN.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS:

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF MEATH.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF RIPON.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF WINCHESTER.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF WAKEFIELD.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM.

THE RIGHT REV. DR. BLUNT, BISHOP OF HULL.

THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON FARRAR, D.D.

THE MASTER OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

SIR J. CRICHTON BROWNE, M.D., F.R.S.

SIR FREDERICK AND LADY HOGG.

THE HEAD MASTER OF HARROW.

THE HON. MRS. FRANCIS BRIDGMAN.

THE REV. E. A. STUART, M.A.

MISS DOROTHEA BEALE.

MISS FRANCES BUSS.

MRS. BOYD CARPENTER.

MISS EMILY SHIRREFF.

## TREASURER:

JAMES GORDON, Esq., Bradford Old Bank, Bradford, Yorks.

## GENERAL HON. SECRETARY:

MISS CHARLOTTE M. MASON, House of Education, Ambleside.

## HON. ORGANIZING SECRETARY:

HENRY PERRIN, 8, Carlton Hill, London, N.W.

P35cmc 272

## COUNCIL:

MISS ROSE ADAMS.  
MRS. F. H. ANSON.  
MRS. ARNOLD-FORSTER.  
HENRY BEVERIDGE, Esq.  
OSCAR BROWNING, Esq.  
MRS. MONTAGU BUTLER.  
MISS M. A. CHREIMANN.  
\*MRS. COTTON.  
\*A. C. P. COOTE, Esq., AND MRS. COOTE.  
MRS. SPEDDING CURWEN.  
MRS. J. SPENCER CURWEN.  
THE REV. CANON AND MRS. DANIEL.  
MRS. ELLIS.  
THE REV. J. P. FAUNTHORPE, M.A.  
REV. JAMES S. FORSYTH, M.A., F.S.Sc., &c.  
\*MISS FRANKS.  
THE REV. CANON FURSE AND MRS. FURSE.  
JUDGE GATES, Q.C., AND MRS. GATES.  
A. H. GILKES, Esq., M.A.  
DR. GLADSTONE, F.R.S.  
\*J. E. GORDON, Esq., AND MRS. GORDON.  
\*MRS. GURNEY-FOX.  
\*REV. AND MRS. HART-DAVIS.  
DR. W. M. HICKS, F.R.S. AND MRS. HICKS.  
MRS. HOLTON.  
THE LADY ALICE ARCHER HOUBLON.  
\*JOHN JACKSON, Esq., F.E.I.S.  
\*THE REV. W. H. KEELING, M.A., AND MRS. KEELING.  
LADY KENNETT-BARRINGTON.  
\*MRS. STEWART MACKAY.  
\*M. R. MARGESSON, Esq., AND THE LADY ISABEL MARGESSON.  
MRS. MAUDE.  
\*MRS. ROLAND McNEILL.  
MRS. L. T. MEADE.  
PROFESSOR MAX MULLER, M.A.  
MRS. MULLER.  
\*MRS. HALLAM MURRAY.  
C. KEGAN PAUL, Esq., M.A., AND MRS. KEGAN PAUL.  
\*HENRY PERRIN, Esq., AND MRS. PERRIN.  
J. SURTEES PHILLPOTTS, Esq., M.A.  
G. T. PILCHER, Esq.  
\*EDWARD C. ROBINS, Esq., F.S.A., AND MRS. ROBINS.  
T. G. ROOPER, Esq., H.M.I.  
MRS. SCHARLIEB, M.D.  
\*DR. A. T. SCHOFIELD AND MRS. SCHOFIELD.  
\*THE REV. T. W. SHARPE, M.A., H.M.I.  
A. SONNENSCHN, Esq.  
\*FRANCIS STEINTHAL, Esq., AND MRS. STEINTHAL.  
PROFESSOR SULLY, M.A.  
MISS ANNA SWANWICK.  
THE HON. EDWARD THESIGER AND MRS. THESIGER.  
THE REV. G. R. THORNTON, M.A.  
\*A. H. TUBBY, Esq., M.B., M.S.  
\*ALFRED THOMPSON, Esq., AND MRS. THOMPSON.  
MRS. SYMES THOMPSON.  
MRS. FRANCIS WARNER.  
MISS HELEN WEBB, M.B.  
REV. H. W. WEBB-PEPLOE, M.A.  
FREDERICK WILLS, Esq., AND MRS. WILLS.

\* Those Members of the Council whose names are marked \* form the Executive Committee.



P36cmc272

4

## RULES AND PRINCIPLES

OF THE

# Parents' National Educational Union.

1.—This Society shall be called "The Parents' National Educational Union."

2.—The Central Principles, to which all Local Branches joining the Society shall pledge themselves, shall be:—

- (1) That a religious basis of work be maintained.
- (2) That the series of addresses and other means employed by the Union shall be so arranged as to deal with Education under the following heads:—Physical, Mental, Moral and Religious.
- (3) That arrangements concerning Lectures, &c., be made with a view to the convenience of fathers as well as mothers.
- (4) That the work of the Union be arranged so as to help parents of all classes.

3.—That the objects of the Society shall be:—

- (1) To assist parents of all classes to understand the best principles and methods of Education in all its aspects, and especially in those which concern the formation of habits and character.
- (2) To create a better public opinion on the subject of the training of children, and, with this object in view, to collect and make known the best information and experience on the subject.
- (3) To afford to parents opportunities for Co-operation and Consultation, so that the wisdom and experience of each may be made profitable for all.
- (4) To stimulate their enthusiasm through the sympathy of numbers acting together.
- (5) To secure greater unity and continuity of Education by harmonising home and school training.

P37cmc272

5

## CONSTITUTION.

4.—The Society shall consist of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Ordinary Members, a Central Council and Executive Committee, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, and Local Branches.

5.—The following persons shall be Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Members of Council:—with power to add to their number (See list on Pages 2 and 3.)

6.—The following shall be the Officers of the Society:—

Dr. A. T. SCHOFIELD, *Chairman of the Executive Committee.*

A. C. P. COOTE, Esq., *Vice-Chairman.*

JAMES GORDON, Esq., Bradford Old Bank, Bradford, *Treasurer.*

Miss MASON, *Hon. Secretary.*

HENRY PERRIN, Esq., *Hon. Organizing Secretary in London.*

7.—The Bankers of the Union shall be the Bradford Old Bank, Limited, Bradford, and Subscriptions shall be made payable at that Bank, or any of its Branches, or at Lloyds Bank, Limited, London, 72, Lombard Street, E.C., and 54, St. James Street, S.W., or any of its Branches.

8.—The Executive Committee shall be empowered to add to the number of Vice-Presidents and of Members of the Central Council. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the Council annually, but the members shall be eligible for re-election. Three Members of the Executive Council shall form a *quorum*.

9.—The Central Council, of which the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and the Executive Committee shall be members, shall meet once a year to receive reports of work done and progress made in the past year, and to advise as to new departures, &c.

10.—The Executive Committee shall meet quarterly, or more often if summoned on urgent business connected with the Society, and shall make any needful bye-laws.



11.—One member of each Local Branch shall represent it at the meeting of the Central Council as an *ex-officio* member.

12.—Branches of the Society shall be free to organise themselves and make their own local bye-laws, a copy of which shall be sent up to the Executive Committee of the Central Council.

13.—The Secretaries of Branches shall prepare and send to the General Secretary, previous to the meeting of the Central Council, a report of work done in the Branch during the year. They shall also send to the Hon. Org. Sec. a supply of any prospectuses or other papers printed by their Branch, that he may send a copy to each of the other Local Secretaries.

#### FINANCE.

14.—Not less than five shillings a year, to cover both heads of a household, shall be the subscription of Members of Branches. Members subscribing not less than ten shillings per annum shall be entitled to receive monthly a copy of "The Parents' Review" (published at 6d.)

15.—Ten shillings a year shall be the subscription of Members of the Central Council.

16.—The annual fee of one guinea shall be paid by each Local Branch to the general Treasurer of the Society.

17.—Subscriptions and fees shall fall due on the 1st of January of each year, and shall be sent in to the Treasurer. In the case of Local Branches, subscriptions shall be paid to the Local Treasurer on January 1st, or at the next meeting following the date when they fall due.

18.—Subscriptions to the Central Fund are invited. Such subscriptions should be paid in to the Treasurer, or to one of the banks above named.

## THE Parents' National Educational Union.

### GENERAL ANNUAL REPORT, JUNE, 1893.

BEFORE presenting a Report of the work done during the past twelve months, the Committee think it may be useful to reprint the following paper read before a Sectional Meeting of the Teachers' Guild, which explains somewhat fully the aims and methods of the Society.

#### PARENTS AND TEACHERS.

BY HENRY PERRIN.

WHEN your Secretary very kindly invited a representative of the P.N.E.U. to give you some account of the objects and work of the Society, I very gladly embraced the opportunity, because I felt that, however imperfectly I might lay the case before you, a body of trained teachers like yourselves could not fail to perceive the importance of its aims, or the value of the work that we have set ourselves to do; and further, because, from the discussion which it is the object of this paper to elicit, I expect to gather many suggestions of special value from your experience in one part at least of the Education of Children. That a Society like ours can do more than touch the fringe of this great subject, even if we had the number of members and the means at our disposal that we are sometimes ambitious enough to dream of, we should be the first to admit; whether we are setting about our work in the right way, you must judge. If at present we only succeed in arousing here and there *one* parent to a higher sense of his responsibilities, we think we shall not have worked in vain.

This, then, is the fundamental idea on which all our principles rest, that parents are, and must grasp the fact that they, and they only, are ultimately responsible for the right upbringing of their children. This responsibility, is



threefold—to the child, to the State, and to God. And that they may understand the full extent of this responsibility, they must always bear in mind that the child's nature is also threefold, and that each part of its being, physical, intellectual and moral, must receive equal care, must equally be developed and trained by the nutriment, the exercise and discipline appropriate to each, and that no one part must be stimulated to the detriment of the others. If this could be carried out in its entirety, we should have no athletes with empty brains and want of character, no prodigies of learning with puny bodies and feeble health, no moral fanatics lacking that intellectual balance which alone can render the highest aspirations of service to mankind. Instead, therefore, of concentrating their energies upon the development of certain faculties (however excellent in themselves) to the exclusion of others, parents must keep before them, as the ideal of perfect manhood and womanhood, a body possessing all the beauty, strength and adaptability of which it is capable, a mind equipped with a varied store of knowledge, and provided with powers of observation, reasoning and expression, and both controlled by a character of truth, purity, self-sacrifice and reverence. But a parent may say, We admit the truth of all this, and in order that our children may attain this ideal, we provide the best of nurses, the most highly certificated of teachers, the most expensive of schools. What more can we do? Nay, but, we reply, what is this that you do? You pay much money, and you think that by so doing you divest yourselves of your own responsibility. On the contrary, you increase it. It is doubtless necessary that you should have skilled assistance in the various parts of the work of bringing up your children, but the choice of your assistants rests with yourselves, and without knowledge you cannot judge of their fitness. For mere money payments you cannot buy the necessary qualities; and granted that by this means you do succeed in finding those who are themselves suited for the work, without the intelligent supervision and guidance of the parents, their work lacks harmony and adaptability to the requirements of each individual child. And further, you cannot rid yourselves of that mysterious influence exerted unconsciously by parents on their children, by which one word, one look, one gesture of theirs will often counteract a train of thought that others may have long laboured to instil, or a habit that teachers and nurses may have tried to implant.

Such being then the case, that a responsibility which cannot be devolved upon others rests on parents for the right upbringing of their children, we are led to consider whether parents have taken any means to fit themselves for their duties. You, ladies and gentlemen, have undertaken the task of teaching children, you have devoted your lives—your thought, your energies, your care—to one of the noblest works that man or woman can take in hand; but before engaging in the service, you have trained yourselves in school, or college, or university, so that you may be equipped at all points for the important posts you are to fill, and you are convinced, and rightly so, that none but those qualified by nature, capacity, personal character, and thorough efficient training, is entitled to be considered, or should be allowed to consider himself, a teacher. In the same way, hospital nurses, lawyers, doctors, clergy, all are required to undergo a period of training, often very long and arduous,

before entering upon the work to which they propose to devote their lives. This is as it should be, but parents, whose duties are more difficult, and whose position is one of greater responsibility than that of any of the professions I have named, neither have, nor see any reason why they should have, any training, however perfunctory, to fit them for the duties that devolve upon them.

This leads me to the second part of my subject, the means by which the P.N.E.U. proposes to meet this deficiency. A few parents in any given district who realise the importance of this principle, take counsel together, and, associating themselves with teachers, doctors, and any who can assist in the study of child-nature and training, in friendly and conversational meetings discuss the various problems and difficulties that present themselves, bringing the knowledge and experience of each into the common fund for the benefit of all, and by mutual advice and help stimulating and guiding each other to the more perfect fulfilment of parental duties. These in turn bring others, actual and potential parents, and all, as missionaries, endeavour to spread the principles of true education, in schools, mothers' meetings, amongst their friends, in district-visiting and the like, wherever their influence extends. In the various branches members can learn what books are most useful in their work, and arrangements are made for their loan, so that the library of each may be at the service of all. In fact the variety of agencies is unlimited; press, platform, and pulpit are utilised; and *The Parents' Review*, *The Parents' Review School*, the House of Education, lectures to mothers, to nurses, to servant-girls, are only some of the means which are either actually in operation, or only awaiting adequate means for their realisation. The subjects considered group themselves under the following heads:

- I. Food and clothing proper to each age; hygienic conditions, as light, air, warmth, bathing, &c., and the physiological principles governing them.
  - (a) Training of the limbs with a view to the attainment of complete symmetry and adaptability to their several functions.
  - (b) Training of the eye, hand, voice, &c.
  - (c) Games, gymnastics—their physical advantages and dangers.
  - (d) The lessons to be derived by parents from the unconscious motions of childhood, its restless activity and the like.
  - (e) The parents' helps and hindrances in physical training.
- II. The connection between physical and mental well-being; the earliest signs and growth of the perceptive faculties.
  - (a) Intellectual training, with a view to the complete development of all the mental powers.
  - (b) Artistic training, graphic and musical.
  - (c) The educational value of games.
  - (d) The lessons to be learnt from the instinctive manifestations of the child's mind, its ceaseless questionings, &c.
  - (e) The parents' helps and hindrances in mental training.
- III. The Moral and Spiritual nature, and the influence upon it of physical and mental health.
  - (a) Moral training for the formation of character.
  - (b) Religious teaching.
  - (c) Games and companionship—their moral advantages and dangers.



(d) The lessons to be derived by parents from the trust and love of their children, and the manner in which their children's character and conduct are moulded on their own.

(e) The parents' helps and hindrances in moral and spiritual training. Our field is thus seen to be a wide one, and in that field we parents claim to be supreme; to us nurses and teachers, universities, churches and parliaments are subordinate, wherever they touch our children. Our aim is first to awaken parents to a sense of their own duties and their children's rights, and then to ensure under their direction that by right sanitary conditions, sound teaching, and good laws and customs, these duties shall be fulfilled and these rights safeguarded.

In conclusion, if, in the course of this paper, I have made large claims on behalf of parents, claims from which I dare not abate one jot, in the presence of an audience of teachers I would do so with all humility, acknowledging with gratitude that you have taken a world of trouble to fit yourselves for specialists, while we have been content to blunder on without any preparation. At the same time, I trust I have made it clear that these rights entail the fulfilment of corresponding duties, and, holding as I do that the parent cannot arrogate to himself too much power to help his children, it follows that he must first inform himself as to the right use of it. And it is here that I venture with confidence to invite your assistance. Cannot you devise a curriculum that will prepare the scholars now under your care to become wise parents of the new generation? And cannot you assist us who are now parents in our studies, so that we may rightly understand the nature of our children, the manner in which their various faculties unfold, their development, and the way in which we may promote and guide, or at least not hinder, their growth towards perfection? And thirdly, cannot you, in concert with parents, so reform that part of the training of children that falls more immediately under your care, so that it may not "lean," to quote Mr. Gladstone's words, "if ever so little, to that theory of education which would have it to construct machines of so many horse-power, rather than to form character, to rear into excellence that marvellous creature we call man; which gloats upon success in life, instead of studying to secure that the man shall always be greater than his work, and never bounded by it, but that his eye shall always boldly run, in the words of Wordsworth:

"Along the line of limitless desires."

Before the child comes under your care, the lines of his character, physical, intellectual and moral, are marked out, and the foundation of his education so firmly laid, that you can only complete, at most with certain modifications, the work that has been begun. Help us then so to mark out these lines aright, so truly to lay these foundations, that you may have no occasion to rebuild, or to waste precious time in laboriously rectifying faulty work, but may, with ever-increasing delight, carry the structure higher and yet higher towards the ideal that we have set before us.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARENTS' NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL UNION, June 17th, 1892.

THE following is almost an exact copy of the *Times* report :

A numerous meeting was held yesterday afternoon at London House, by permission of the Bishop of London. There were present the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen, Sir J. Crichton Browne, F.R.S., Mr. John Jackson, Mr. Henry Perrin, Organising Secretary, Canon Daniel, Miss Mason, Dr. A. T. Schofield, and others. The chair was taken by Lord Aberdeen.

The Chairman called upon the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Henry Perrin, who said letters regretting unavoidable absence had been received from the Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of London, Archdeacon Farrar, and others. The Committee were much encouraged by the response given to their efforts during the last two or three months. They felt that they were collecting together a large body of national supporters to help on the work of training parents in the matter of educating their children, not in one faculty only, but physically, morally, intellectually, and spiritually, so that they might become, with well-balanced characters, useful members of society.

The Chairman said that when the movement was set on foot there was a fear that the objects of the society were somewhat too vague for practical purposes. But he was sure that their experience justified the existence of the society, which would have done good service if it had done nothing but give occasion to the various essays and papers which had been contributed during the last year, and the *Parents' Review*, which had been issued by the Union, was certainly a most valuable paper.

Sir J. Crichton Browne, in moving the adoption of the Report and the re-election of the officers of the Society, said that, though he was usually in favour of individual action, and was prone to suspect the objects of societies, he was convinced, from careful examination, that this Union was doing a necessary and valuable work. Biology showed that the higher the organism the longer was the period required of parental supervision and the dependence of children; and the more advanced the civilisation the more protracted was the period during which offspring required the assistance of their parents. High evolution meant slow and gradual evolution. (Hear, hear.) Thus education needed to become less instinctive and more elaborate and scientific. In the same way the dependence of human beings generally on the Father



of All was more complete, and the links which united them to Him became more numerous and complete. He was, therefore, glad to find the work of the society rested on a religious basis. No doubt the work of the schoolmaster was of the highest importance, but that of the parent was far more intimately connected with the permanent welfare of the children. There was too much tendency to leave the management of children and education generally to others. No doubt the story told of the City man's household was an exaggeration: "Mamma," asked a child, "who is that gentleman who comes here on Sunday and carves the joint?" (Laughter.) This was all the little girl knew of her own father. Education was the guidance of growth, and as the knowledge of the brain organism increased there ought to be a like development of right method in the training of children. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Jackson, in speaking on the practical side of the question as a schoolmaster, said that he had always had much more trouble with the parents than with the children. Schoolmasters went through a long preparatory training, but parents, for their much more arduous and responsible functions, had no such time of probation. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman, in putting the resolution, said that any reference to the *Parents' Review* would be incomplete without mention of its editor, Miss Charlotte Mason.

The resolution was carried.

Lady Aberdeen, in moving a resolution which pledged the meeting to support the Union, the *Parents' Review*, and the House of Education and *Parents' Review* School, said that it was to Miss Mason and her admirable book on "Home Education" that the Parents' National Educational Union owed its existence. The House of Education, over which Miss Mason so admirably presided, had done much to realise in fact the ideals of the Union. Half the difficulties in the education of children lay in the imperfect understanding of children by their parents. Sympathy and the imaginative power to put oneself in another's place were sadly to seek in the majority of parents. (Cheers.) It would be seen that the Union, the House of Education, and the *Parents' Review* School aimed at the proper training—intellectual, moral, spiritual, and physical—of children. (Cheers.) Both in England and Scotland Mothers' Unions and Women's Help Societies were doing a work somewhat like their own in stimulating the sense of the responsibility of motherhood. (Hear, hear.) She hoped in time some bond of union might be established between all these societies. (Cheers.) Her little magazine, *Onward and Upward*, had been adopted by the society.

Dr. A. T. Schofield seconded the resolution. He said the society had a distinct religious basis. He would urge all parents to join either the Central Union or one of the many local unions. He would especially recommend the stimulating book by Miss Mason, already referred to, "Home Education," and also the *Parents' Review*—a magazine into which he had never looked without gaining some suggestive idea. (Hear, hear.) The House of Education at Ambleside was designed to afford practical instruction in the

management of children, whether to governesses, or ladies in other capacities. The *Parents' Review* School was intended to combine the advantages of home life with those of a good school education. The children, taught in private homes, had the advantage of a course of study prescribed by the House of Education, and of examination by well-qualified persons sent from the Central House. He would also point out that the Union had taken in hand the important question of hygiene, and hoped to induce the Universities to adopt elementary physiology and hygiene as one of the subjects of their local examination. (Hear, hear.) Money was required to found scholarships at the House of Education and to supply lectures to local institutions. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Canon Daniel discussed the order of development in the child's mind, and the conditions under which the best work was done both by adults and children. He hoped the Union would do its best to create an intellectual conscience in children, especially in the choice of books for the home library. He moved a vote of thanks to the Bishop of London for the loan of London House, and to Lord Aberdeen for presiding.

Miss Mason seconded the resolution, and said that Lady Aberdeen was the real originator of the work which had developed into the House of Education. She was glad to say that "I believe in parents" was an article of her creed, and almost all that was good in the *Parents' Review* was contributed by parents.

The resolution was carried, and the meeting came to a close.

The interests of the Society have been greatly advanced by a series of articles in the *Girls' Own Paper*, entitled "The New Education," by Dr. Schofield. These have led to considerable results in the way of new members, etc.





The following Lectures, delivered during the past year at various Centres, are taken from the Reports sent in by the various branches. The titles of the Lectures are given in full, as shewing the varied "menu" offered by the Society to its members:—

## Session 1892 - 3.

### BELGRAVIA AND WESTMINSTER BRANCH. COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. H. ELLISON (*Chairman*).

Mrs. F. ANSON	Mrs. HALLAM MURRAY
Mrs. COTTON	JOHN MURRAY, Junr., Esq.
Mrs. SHIRREFF HILTON	Rev. A. J. MYERS
Miss HOLMES	GUY PYM, Esq.
Lady ISABEL MARGESSON	The Hon. E. THESIGER, C B.

**Hon. Secretary:** Lady ISABEL MARGESSON,  
63, St. George's Road, S.W.

**Hon. Treasurer:** Mrs. HALLAM MURRAY,  
30, Grosvenor Road, Westminster.

The Committee has much pleasure in reporting the growth and progress of their Branch during the past year. The number of the members has nearly doubled itself, and the meetings are always well attended. The subjects of the Monthly Lectures given by the kindness of friends have been—"The Kindergarten"; "Heredity"; "Religious Instruction"; "Nursery Hygiene"; "Brain Starvation."

There have been three separate courses of Training Lessons during the winter; the first was on the "Theory and Practice of Frœbel," given by Mrs. Walter Ward. The second was given by Mr. G. Cooke, on "Teaching Children to Draw and Paint." The third was given by Miss Agnes Mason, on "How to Give Religious Instruction."

Each Course has consisted of eight lessons, and was attended by about fifteen ladies. The lessons were held in the houses of friends, who kindly lent their dining rooms for the occasion.

The small Lending Library started this year has been much appreciated, and nearly all the books are borrowed.

There have been two "Natural History" meetings, when Miss Vinter has been kind enough to come and give practical help as to the best methods of encouraging a love of Natural History in children. It is proposed to form a Club for members for this purpose.

The means to be employed by the WESTMINSTER AND BELGRAVIA BRANCH of the Parents' Educational Union are:—

1. The institution of a series of lectures by competent persons on subjects connected with the training of children.
2. The dissemination of literature, carefully selected, or specially drawn up, among those who are desirous of studying the subject.
3. To render the results of individual experience in the training of children available for all who are interested in the question.

The following are some of the Lectures that were given during the winter:—

1892.  
Nov. 15th. "The Value of Kindergarten Teaching." By Miss FRANKS.  
Dec. 15th. "How to teach the Bible." By Miss AGNES MASON.
1893.  
Jan. 26th. "Heredity." By A. H. TUBBY, Esq., M.D.  
Feb. 16th. "Nursery Hygiene." (To ladies only.) By Miss HELEN WEBB, M.B. (Lond.)  
Mar. 10th. "The Books our Children Like, and Why." By Mrs. ORMISTON CHANT.

A delightful meeting was held on March 17th, at 9, Chelsea Embankment, by the kind permission of the Marchioness of Ripon, when a lecture was given by Mrs. Ormiston Chant, on "Brain-starved Children." Lady Aberdeen presided, and explained in a few words the aims of the P.N.E.U. Her words were so persuasive and convincing, that they, combined with Mrs. Ormiston Chant's eloquent lecture, brought many new members. The number that attended was very large.

Mrs. Walter Ward has given a course of Ten Lessons to ladies, which were devoted to teaching the theory of true education, as it has been worked out by Frœbel.

### HAMPSTEAD AND ST. JOHN'S WOOD BRANCH.

- Oct., 1892.—Lecturer: Dr. A. T. SCHOFIELD, "The Raw Material."  
Chairman: Rev. MORRIS JOSEPH.
- Nov.—Lecturer: Dr. MACNAUGHTON JONES, "The Care of the Senses in Children." Chairman: Mr. HENRY PERRIN.
- Dec.—Lecturer: Rev. E. A. STUART, M.A., "Our Sins against Children."  
Chairman: Mr. M. H. HODDER. (An afternoon meeting for discussion of the lecture was held a week later.)
- Jan., 1893.—Lecturer: Mr. T. G. ROOPER, "The Education of Girls, with special reference to Sir James Crichton Browne's oration on 'Sex.'"  
Chairman: Mr. C. E. MAURICE.
- Feb.—Lecturer: Mr. CHARLES SIMMONS, "School Hours and Holidays."  
Chairman: Rev. J. KIRKMAN.



- March—Lecturer: Miss HELEN WEBB, M.B., Lond., "Mind and Body."  
Chairman: Dr. EADY.  
April—Lecturer: Miss EVA YOUNG, "The Musical Education of the  
future: Key-board Notation."  
May—Demonstration Lesson in Modelling, Mrs. FRANCIS STEINTHAL.

## FUTURE MEETING.

- June—Lecturer: Mr. JOHN JACKSON, "The Hygiene of Handwriting."

The Meetings during this session have been well attended, and an increasing interest is shown in the work of the Society.

A list of books in the Library of the Branch has been prepared and circulated during the session.

It has not been thought practicable to secure one Sunday as a "Parents' Sunday." Several of the local clergy and ministers have, however, promised to preach a Special Annual Sermon to parents on the right training of children. Others, while sympathising with the aims of the Committee, prefer not to pledge themselves to a special sermon.

C. S. PLAYNE, *Hon. Sec.*

## LEEDS BRANCH.

## COMMITTEE:

The Hon. Mrs. TALBOT (*President*).

Mrs. MIALL. Mrs. FRANCIS STEINTHAL. Mrs. SMITHELLS.

Mrs. JOHN BARRAN (*Hon. Sec.*), Mrs. ROBSON (*Hon. Treas.*),  
Weetwood, Leeds. Adel, nr. Leeds.

December 6th, 1892. The inaugural meeting of the Leeds branch of the P.N.E.U. held at the Girls' High School, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds. The President, the Hon. Mrs. Talbot, took the chair, and in a few words introduced Mrs. Boyd Carpenter, who gave an interesting and helpful address on "The Earliest Home Training." A cordial vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Francis Steintal of Ilkley—who has kindly promised to become a member of the Leeds committee—and seconded by Mr. R. W. Eddison. About sixty ladies were present, many of them being members of the Union.

The Committee of the Leeds Branch of the P.N.E.U. regret they have been unable to arrange for another address during this session. They have, however, drawn up a syllabus for the ensuing winter, when the following ladies and gentlemen have kindly promised to give addresses.

DR. EDDISON.

Mrs. MIALL.

THE HON. & REV. EDWARD LYTTETTON, M.A.

Mrs. INGHAM BROOKE.

Mrs. FRANCIS STEINTHAL.

## READING BRANCH.

June 4th, 1892.—Meeting held at Miss ABRAM'S, Ascham House. Chairman:—ALFRED SUTTON, Esq. Paper read by Mrs. HART DAVIS on "Child Nature."

Nov. 12th, 1892.—Meeting held at Miss RUNDELL'S, Watlington House. Chairman:—the Rev. M. T. FRIENDS. Paper read by Rev. H. C. BEECHING, Rector of Yattendon, on "The Teaching of Poetry."

March 4th, 1893.—Meeting held at the High School. Chairman:—Rev. F. T. COLSON, Vicar of St. John's. Paper read by HASTINGS GILFORD, Esq., F.R.C.S. on "The Physical Education of Children."

There has been a steady increase in the number of members during the year, and much interest has been shewn at the meetings in the subjects under discussion. A lending library for the use of Members has been started.

WILL. SALMON, *Hon. Sec.*

Present number of members, is 67.

## KENDAL BRANCH.

Sept. 7th, 1892. — A Paper was read by ROBERT SOMERVELL, ESQ., M.A., Assistant Master of Harrow School, on Wednesday; subject: "Lessons before School—Hints on the First Stage of Education."

Feb. 23rd, 1893. — A Paper was read by Dr. MASON, of Windermere, in the Museum Lecture Room, on some practical points in the Physical Education of Children (nerves, clothing, exercise, hours of work, sleep, and food). The chair was taken by James Gandy, Esq., High Sheriff of Westmoreland. There was a very good attendance, and the audience seemed much interested.

## SHEFFIELD BRANCH.

Feb. 28th, 1893. — Meeting held at Mrs. Elliott's, Hunter's Bar, at which Mrs. KIRK read a Paper on "Mrs. Wesley, or an 18th century mother."

Mar. 22nd, 1893. — At the High School, by invitation of Mrs. Woodhouse, when the Hon. Mrs. MACLAGAN addressed the meeting upon the subject of "Prayer."

May 10th, 1893. — Meeting arranged to consider how to extend the branch.

## WOODFORD AND WANSTEAD BRANCH.

## LOCAL HON. SEC.:

Mrs. SPENCER CURWEN, South Woodford, N.E.

A Branch has been formed here this year and three lectures given.

Feb. 4th.—"Physical Education of Children," Dr. SCHOFIELD.

Mar. 15th.—"Hand and Eye Training," Miss FRANKS.

April 27th.—"Sloyd," by J. RUSSELL, Esq.



## STREATHAM BRANCH.

### LOCAL COMMITTEE:

REV. H. BARON DICKINSON, M.A.	GARDINER GOULD, ESQ., M.D.
REV. J. H. MALLINSON, M.A.	MISS JULIA GRIFFITHS.
REV. GEORGE M. DROUGHT, M.A.	MISS CRICKMAY.

### HONORARY SECRETARY:

MRS. STRODE, Bankside, Leigham Court Road.

### HONORARY TREASURER:

MRS. STEWART MACKAY, Rosenau, Palace Road.

The Streatham Branch was formed in the summer of 1892, and numbers forty-nine members. Six meetings were held in the High School Hall, and papers were read on the following subjects:—"On the Training of Children," by Dr. Schofield; "On the Religious Training," by F. Aldous, Esq.; "The Hygiene of Handwriting," by John Jackson, Esq.; "Heredity," by J. Tubby, Esq.; "Nursery Hygiene," Miss Helen Webb, M.D.; "Musical Training," by Dr. Farmer, Baliol. The Standards illustrated by Miss Hilda Morris. It is to be hoped more Members will take part in the discussions after the papers are read, when their usefulness is more fully realised.

## Obituary.

We have to record the death of two valued friends and indefatigable helpers of our work, the REV. EDWARD WYNNE, Vicar of Forest Gate, and MRS. DEUCHAR-JONES, for many years connected with the Royal Caledonian Asylum, Holloway.

The death of the Rev. Edward Wynne leaves a gap which it will not be easy to fill. He has been intimately associated with the work from the beginning; indeed, the lectures on "Home Education," which originated the whole scheme, were given under his kind auspices and to help a parochial work. From that date until his lamented death we have always found in Mr. Wynne an able counsellor and a most kind, cordial and indefatigable friend to the cause in which he took so lively an interest. He worked hard as a member of the council of the P.N.E.U., and most generously undertook the post of Hon. Sec. when he was little fit for its duties. This is not the place to speak of Mr. Wynne's personal qualities, nor of personal sorrow for his loss.

Mrs Deuchar-Jones had been for about twelve months a member of the Executive Committee where her long experience in educational work made her assistance most valuable.

## THE PARENTS' UNION OF AMERICA

HAS begun work in Boston, adopting intact the principles and methods of the P.N.E.U. So much interest in our work has been manifested by American educationalists that the new Society should do well.

### LENDING LIBRARIES.

The past year has been marked by considerable effort in the way of establishing Branch Libraries. The Hampstead, Belgravia, and Reading branches have each formed the nucleus of a good educational Library. The books are borrowed freely and appear to give rise to some interesting discussion. Other branches are making arrangements for similar Libraries.

### MOTHERS' TRAINING CLASSES.

Extremely valuable work has been done in this direction by the Belgravia branch. The Leeds branch has made arrangements for at least one training class. It is desirable that each branch of the Society should have at least one course of Training Lessons for Mothers during the Session.

### NATURAL HISTORY CLUBS.

This is a new departure during the past year. The House of Education Naturalists' Club is doing extremely good work. Arrangements for affiliation may be made by applying to the Secretary, House of Education, Ambleside.

The Westminster and Belgravia Branch has also established a Natural History Club. It is desirable that each of the Branches should make definite plans for field work. Practical acquaintance with the common objects of the country should be the aim of such clubs.



## THE PARENTS' REVIEW.

### MOTTO:—

"EDUCATION IS AN ATMOSPHERE, A DISCIPLINE, A LIFE."  
—Matthew Arnold.

THE PARENTS' REVIEW appears to be more popular than ever within its own limited circle. We have many testimonies of its exceeding usefulness in the way of giving impulse and direction to the efforts of parents. The misfortune is that this circle does not extend sufficiently for the support of the Magazine. We must again beg our friends to redouble their efforts to maintain a publication which they appear to value so highly. A very charming feature of this year's issue is "Aunt Mai's Budget," edited by Mrs. F. Steinthal, and containing a series of papers on such Home Arts as modelling, brush-work, &c., &c, for the nursery and home school-room.

SIXPENCE MONTHLY.

Publishers:—Messrs. KEGAN PAUL & Co.

May be had from all Booksellers, or from the Hon. Organizing Secretary.

## THE HOUSE OF EDUCATION, AMBLESIDE.

"For the Children's sake."

Plato observes that "Man cannot propose a higher or holier object for his study than Education, and all that pertains to Education."

### PATRONESSES:

The DUCHESS OF PORTLAND.	The VISCOUNTESS NEWPORT.
The DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND.	The LADY MARY WOOD.
The MARCHIONESS OF GRANBY.	The LADY ALICE ARCHER
The COUNTESS OF ERROLL.	HOUBLON.
The COUNTESS COMPTON.	The LADY ISABEL MARGESSON.
The COUNTESS OF NORTHESK.	The LADY HASTINGS.
The COUNTESS OF ABERDEEN.	The Hon. LADY WELBY.
The COUNTESS OF DUDLEY.	The LADY GALTON.
The LADY MARGARET GRAHAM.	Mrs. BOYD CARPENTER.
The LADY CECILY GATHORNE	Mrs. J. W. BARDSLEY.
HARDY.	Mrs. GRENFELL.
The VISCOUNTESS FOLKESTONE.	Mrs. SCHOFIELD.
Mrs. FRANCIS STEINTHAL.	

### VISITORS:

Mrs. DALLAS YORKE. The LORD BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE.

### EXAMINING PHYSICIAN:

A. T. SCHOFIELD, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S., and Member of the National Health Society.

### EXAMINERS:

The REV. H. C. BEECHING, M.A.; PRINCIPAL BARNET; T. G. ROOPER, Esq., M.A., H.M.I.; and the Examiners of the National Health Society.

### PRINCIPAL:

Miss CHARLOTTE M. MASON.

### TEACHERS:

Miss AUSTIN BULL, Miss M. L. HODGSON, Miss STIRLING, Miss HUNTINGTON, &c.

Nurse LEE, Trained District Nurse.

The REV. C. J. BAYLEY, M.A., Vicar of the Parish; A. JOHNSTON, Esq., M.D., and Mrs. FIRTH are good enough to give Instructions in Divinity, Hygiene, and Art Culture, as interpreted by MR. RUSKIN.

Mrs. FRANCIS STEINTHAL kindly undertakes the direction of the teaching of the Home Arts and Industries, as Bent Iron Work, Modelling, Basket Making, etc.



The OBJECT of the House of Education is to provide for women a special training in the knowledge and the principles which belong to their peculiar work, namely, the *bringing up of children*. It is needless to enlarge on the value of training in giving impulse and direction as well as knowledge and power; and a year's work on special lines should be of incalculable service to all who may, in any way, be concerned in this great work.

The Students of the House of Education are:

- (a) Ladies (young ladies especially) who undergo training to enable them to fulfil the more intelligently the calling of motherhood, or other guardianship of children to which they may be called. These need pass no preliminary examination.
- (b) *Primary Governesses*: that is, ladies who desire to qualify as governesses to young children. These must pass an easy entrance examination, as a test of general knowledge.
- (c) *Secondary Governesses*: that is, ladies who desire to qualify as governesses to more advanced pupils. These should, as a rule, hold certificates of attainments, though such certificates are not indispensable.

French and German Governesses who have undergone training at the House of Education are in very great request. So, too, are trained English Governesses who hold diplomas earned abroad.

Every facility is afforded to ladies who have studied at either of the Women's Colleges, and who desire to spend three or six months at the House of Education to gain some insight into the methods pursued.

Certificates are awarded to successful students at the end of *One Year's* training.

There are two terms in the year of training:

The LONG TERM, from the middle of January till the middle of July.

The SHORT TERM, from the end of September till the middle of December.

Six weeks or more of the Long Vacation is spent by the students in probationary teaching.

Applications for *Probationers* should be made early in the year.

Students may enter at the beginning of either term.

FEE for the year, £50, payable in advance in three instalments of £20, £15 and £15.

£3 a year for books, materials, etc., payable in three instalments with the fees.

A Fee of Five Guineas is payable by each student to the Central Executive during the first year of her engagement as a Governess; this payment constitutes her a Life Member.

The students pay for their own washing.

The House of Education is not under one roof. The building containing Lecture Hall and Class Rooms is distinct from the Boarding-houses. Each Boarding-house is under the supervision of a responsible lady, who trains the students in careful habits.

The students are examined for the Diploma of the National Health Society, which guarantees such knowledge of Human Physiology, Nursing and "First Aid," as will fit them to take intelligent care of children in health and to give intelligent help in sickness; and will also enable them to teach on the lines in which they have themselves been taught.

The "NATURE LORE" CERTIFICATE assures a knowledge of Natural Science—Botany, Geology, Physiography, Natural History—which should enable the governess to gratify the intelligent curiosity of children, or, to introduce her older pupils to the delightful pursuits of the field naturalist.

The EDUCATION CERTIFICATE guarantees practical skill in teaching, some knowledge of the principles of Physical, Psychical, Ethical, Intellectual, and Religious Education; and that the student is able to train nerve and muscle, faculty, will, and conscience in such wise as to work towards the fullest development of the children committed to her care. It also certifies a knowledge of methods of teaching and of text books; and that the student is in touch with advanced educational thought;—as for example, that she is able to teach modern languages on M. Gouin's method. It attests, too, that the student is trained to educate the hand by means of useful and delightful Home Arts.

In a word, the HOUSE OF EDUCATION CERTIFICATE (which includes all the above), testifies to the "all round" qualifications necessary to those who take in hand the education of children and girls up to the age of sixteen or seventeen. At that age the pupil should be ready to specialize, and the aid of the highly-qualified specialist should be called in.

The Certificate will be awarded only when the student shows herself possessed of the—to adapt a phrase—enthusiasm of childhood, which makes all work of teaching and training heart-service done for God.

The interest felt in this movement is widespread, and it is not possible to supply the demand for governesses. Earnest and well-bred women who are looking out for good work are invited to offer themselves for training. The need of devoted co-workers in their labour of love is grievously felt by mothers, especially by some of those of the upper classes whose engagements press heavily upon them,

Apply to

THE SECRETARY,

HOUSE OF EDUCATION,

AMBLESIDE.



REPORT OF HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS  
ON  
THE HOUSE OF EDUCATION,  
AT AMBLESIDE.

ON Saturday, November 22nd, 1892, I visited Ambleside for the purpose of inspecting the House of Education which Miss C. M. Mason established there in the month of January in the same year.

OBJECTS.—Miss Mason believed that among other ways of improving domestic education one of the most important would be to provide a course of training for young ladies which would enable them to act in the capacity of instructor, manager, and companion to children between the ages of five and thirteen, or, indeed, any age. It is certain that while parents not unwisely delegate a part of the training of their children to others, the aid which they may procure is more serviceable in proportion as the Governess possesses a sound training in the theory and practice of education.

METHOD.—At the time of my visit there were thirteen young ladies undergoing a course of training at the House of Education. The course extends over a year, and is partly theoretical and partly practical. The students are concurrently acquiring principles and methods from competent instructors and applying them in a Practising School. It should be observed that it is no part of the plan of the House of Education to supply the students with a groundwork of education.

It is ascertained as a foundation of all that is done there that the students have already mastered the preliminary knowledge such as is common to all educated people, either at a High School, or at a Private School, or at home. The House of Education exists for the purpose of studying and applying the best methods of teaching, managing and occupying children. No student therefore could profit by the training who is not possessed of sufficient mental culture to take up studies of this kind.

My inspection consisted of three divisions.

(1.) I was present at the instruction of the children in the Practising School by the student teachers.

(2.) I witnessed the instruction that was being given to the student teachers by the staff of mistresses attached to the House.

(3.) I visited the house in which the students reside and saw the arrangements which have been made for their comfort.

I will describe what I saw under three heads corresponding with the three divisions of my inspection.

I.—THE PRACTISING SCHOOL.

Miss Mason's intention is to train ladies who will teach in a family, not those who intend to teach in a school. The teacher in a school has to learn how to impart instruction to a number of children of nearly the same age and attainments, that is, to take charge of a class. In a family, on the contrary, the teacher has to deal with a few children differing in age and sex, and less subject to the regulating influences of work in a class. This distinction is obviously one of importance, and Miss Mason deals with it in an original way. Instead of being set to teach a class of children of the same age and attainments, the students are placed in charge of a small group of four children composed of boys and girls of various ages. The training of the Governess for the family is thus quite different from that of the teacher for the school. The students are divided into Seniors and Juniors according to the length of time they have been in the House. Only Seniors are made responsible for the work of a group. These work in pairs, and each pair takes charge of a group for one week at a time under the superintendence of Miss Mason. The Practising School and the Students' Classes are held in premises consisting of a hall and a few convenient class rooms.

The first lesson I heard was one on "Leaves." The age of the children to whom it was given was about twelve years. It was illustrated by more than a dozen different kinds of freshly-gathered leaves and a few which had been made into "skeletons." The teacher had a black board and sketched with facility the particular points which she wished to emphasize. Different kinds of leaves were exhibited and distinguished according as they had three parts, two parts, or only one. Net-veined leaves were contrasted with parallel-veined, and when the fact of the distinction was clearly observed and apprehended by the children, the correct name (petiole, stipule, &c.,) was carefully impressed, and not before. The second lesson was on "Matplaiting" for children of six. Clumsy and awkward little fingers were taught to interweave strips of paper without tearing them, so as to form a simple pattern. The task is sufficiently hard to train both the hand and the eye, and yet sufficiently easy not to exhaust the patience of the most unpractised beginner.



p58cmca272

The third lesson was in French. The children were about eight, and the method adopted was that of M. Gouin. The children walked towards the door, saying as they did so, "*Je marche vers la porte.*" By questions they learnt to analyse the sentence into "*Je marche,*" "I walk," and "*la porte,*" "the door." They reach the door, and then learn to say "*J'arrive à la porte.*" This they analyse as before into "*J'arrive*" and "*la porte,*" and then repeat the first action and sentence. By degrees other actions and sentences are accumulated, such as knocking, opening, and closing. The children express in a complete sentence an action of some kind while they actually perform it, and then separate the sentence into its leading words. I also heard lessons on English Grammar based on the modern analytic treatment, a lesson on Natural History, and one in Drawing which was partly taught by the method of dictation.

## II.—THEORETICAL INSTRUCTION.

Having described the practical work of the students with their little groups of children, I will now give examples of the theoretical instruction which was imparted in my presence.

In the large hall I saw the students practise (1) Swedish Drill with musical accompaniment. Each student learns to lead the drill in turns, (2) Kindergarten Games with and without songs, among which I noticed a very pretty French action song which would develop a sense of the French accent in a pleasant way.

One of the mistresses gave a model lesson on the Sun. The instructress in Kindergarten Occupations gave a lesson on Paper-folding, in which she first showed the aim and object of it and then set the students to fold squares of paper accurately into various shapes. This exercise is perhaps the best introduction to elementary notions about space, and simplifies geometrical studies of all kinds. Madlle. Boudouresque gave a lesson in French. This lesson was oral, the object being to improve the accent rather than to impart a literary knowledge of the language, which most ladies possess. I was present at a lesson in Physiology and at another in Drawing. Among the specimens of Handiwork I noticed, besides plain and fancy needlework, a variety of basket work.

## III.—THE HOUSE AND ITS ARRANGEMENTS.

After inspecting the school, I visited the residence of the students. This was reached by a short walk along a foot-path through the meadows, with exquisite views of the grey and cloud-capped crags of the lake mountains which rose above the rich tints of the dead fern, the vivid green of the pastures, and the deep purple of the hollows. The residence of the students is a gabled house a little way out of Ambleside on the road to Rydal. It stands in a garden, and the sitting-rooms command a charming prospect of the lake scenery, putting me in mind of a saying of the late Mr. L. Nettleship to the effect that a visit to the Lakes was a part of every Englishman's education. I could not help feeling that a year spent in such surroundings would be a kind of education in itself.

p59cmca272

The accommodation in this House appeared to me to be of the kind which most of those who devote themselves to the care of children in private families would find placed at their disposal.

By residing at Ambleside the ladies are enabled to profit by a variety of useful instruction which is provided by the County Council, the Oxford University Extension Lectures, and the influence of Mr. Ruskin on private persons in this literary centre. In their lectures from Dr. Johnston they enjoy the intellectual stimulus of close intercourse with a scientific man. The Vicar of the Parish also gives instructions. The students have attended courses on Hygiene and Botany, which the County Council have started, and they learn practically, from a trained District Nurse, Ambulance and Nursing. They have also attended a short course in Physical Geography and Geology, given under the auspices of the Oxford University.

Competent authorities have conducted walks for the purpose of studying Natural History and Geology in the fields. Mrs. Firth, who has a large collection of photographs of pictures in the Italian Galleries, and has studied the literature of art as well, exhibits them to the students and gives a critical explanation of the works of great artists. In this way Giotto had been recently treated, much to the pleasure and profit of the audience.

The day of the students is somewhat as follows:

They rise at seven, and, after an hour's study, take breakfast. The students make their own beds before going down to the School, where they spend the morning, as I have previously described, in learning and teaching. Dinner is at 1.30. Rest and recreation follow until four o'clock Tea. Time is now found for special study, such as Languages, Needlework, and Manual Training. Tea is served at seven, and in the evening the routine is varied by occasional lectures such as I have named in connection with the Universities and County Councils.

It is right that those heads of families who seek the advantage of assistance in rearing their children should enquire into the social position of those whose help they require. The ladies who are trained at the House of Education are daughters of Clergymen, Officers in the Army, Professional men, and Merchants. Miss Mason has taken special steps to secure that the children in the school shall attain some fixed standard of proficiency. Many parents who educate their children at home are in a state of uncertainty as to how far their children keep pace with other children of their age. Miss Mason has drawn up a syllabus of work for a year showing the extent of the studies of the different children in her practising school. Parents can obtain the syllabus and follow it. Periodical examinations are held in connection with the syllabus, and the papers can be procured by any one who joins in this scheme. The papers worked by the children can be sent to Miss Mason for revision. This arrangement enables children who are scattered about in separate families to keep pace as though they were taught in the same school, and hence Miss Mason calls it "The Parents' Review" School.



I have only to say in conclusion that I was deeply impressed by the earnest and business-like way in which the students in the House of Education addressed themselves to their work, and I do not doubt that they will devote themselves to the care of children with exceptional zeal and knowledge.

T. G. ROOPER.

I.XII.92.

REPORT OF EXAMINERS. (On Written Work.)

Violet Parker, 1st Class.  
 Florence de Montmorency, 2nd Class.  
 Mabel Hall, } 3rd Class.  
 May Culverhouse, }

Miss Mason is to be congratulated on a very honest effort to make her teachers intelligent, two of them are extremely good and the other two the better for their training.

Signed, P. A. BARNETT, M.A.  
 Principal of the Borough Road Training College.  
 H. C. BEECHING, M.A.

Miss Parker and Miss de Montmorency have obtained also the Diploma of the National Health Society, and Certificates for Botany from the Science and Art Department. All four ladies are doing excellent work, and are highly valued in their respective posts.

*The demand for the Students is very urgent, and the seventeen students now in residence are altogether inadequate to supply it. The more highly educated the Students who enter on training, the better the positions they will be able to take. The principle that a year's training at the House of Education doubles the value of a Student in point of salary, is readily recognised by Parents.*

THE PARENTS' REVIEW SCHOOL.

MOTTO.—"I AM, I CAN, I OUGHT, I WILL."

Fresh branches should be founded in their own neighbourhoods by ladies interested in the Union, and the House of Education and Parents' Review School should diligently be made known. The value of the former in supplying trained governesses and the latter in giving such a fixed curriculum and examinations, only require to be known to be employed. The Parents' Review School seems to combine the advantages of school training with those of private and individual teaching.

The objects of the Parents' Review School are to help parents whose children are taught at home, by mother or governess, in the following ways:—

- (a) To secure a common standard of attainment, so that the home-taught child shall be equal to the rest when he goes to school.
- (b) To do this without sacrificing individual development, and the following of the bent of each child's tastes and powers.
- (c) To introduce good methods and good text-books into the home school-room.
- (d) To foster the habits of attention, punctuality, diligence, promptness, and the power of doing given work in a given time.
- (e) To secure the gain of definite work upon a given syllabus, without the danger of "cram," and with freedom in the choice of subjects.
- (f) To test and encourage the home-school from term to term by examinations, testing intelligent knowledge rather than verbal memory.
- (g) To give the home-taught child those advantages of comparison with others and of periodic classification which the school-taught child possesses.
- (h) In a word, while increasing rather than diminishing the leisure of the home-taught child, to counteract any dawdling, dilatory, procrastinating habits which put him at a disadvantage as compared with the smarter school-child.



This help is given in the following ways:—  
 "Preliminary questions" are sent to a mother framed to ascertain the physical and mental development as well as the attainments of each child. Upon the answers to these, the children are classified, and a programme of work for a term is sent for the children in each class, together with time-tables, "suggestions" as to method of teaching and books to be used, and the "Rules" of the School. At the end of the term the children's work is tested by a little examination, which is carried on under such regulations as these:—

- 1.—Examination to occupy a full school week. Each subject to be examined upon in its own time. In Classes i. and ii., each subject to last from 5 to 10 minutes in one day; in Class iii. and upwards, to last the time allowed in the time-table. Examination to begin on December 15th.
- 2.—*Recitations* (English), two each day, to be heard by the father when convenient, he giving marks, from 1 to 5, for each piece.
- 3.—The Parents should, if possible, be present at the oral parts of the examination.
- 4.—Their examinations should afford moral training to the children and should be conducted with absolute probity. Worry and excitement should be discouraged. Order, quietness, and cheerfulness, should be maintained.

The fees for this kind of supervision are:—1 guinea a year for a family of children under 10 years of age, 3 guineas where there are children over 10, because of the greater amount of clerical work, which must be done by highly-qualified teachers.

The School is doing excellent work, and has more than doubled its numbers in the past year.

*The Féssole Club.*—Conducted by W. G. Collingwood, Esq., Head Lane, Coniston, Lancashire, Universities' Extension Lecturer, &c., a Club for the study of Water Colour Drawing according to the laws of Féssole, as set forth by Ruskin. Excellent work has been done in this Club.



## MOTHERS' EDUCATIONAL COURSE.

THREE YEARS.

To help Mothers to give their children such teaching as should confirm them in the Christian Religion.

To give the knowledge necessary for the care and development of children in sickness and health.

To show the principles of Education, and methods based on those principles.

To enable Mothers to awaken their children's interest in Nature, and give them their first ideas.

The work for the first year is elementary and not difficult. It fairly covers the principles of, and suggests good methods for, the physical, moral, mental, and religious training of children; and includes the knowledge necessary to give children their first inspiring ideas about the natural world.

Much of the matter is familiar; but it is one thing to read a work carelessly, and quite another to study it definitely with a view to examination.

The year's work may be done by reading at the rate of about 100 pages a week for ten months. The order of this reading is left to the student.

The examinations fall twice a year—the first week in *June* and the first week in *December*; when examination papers are sent to the students.

The examination on Human Physiology and Hygiene will be for the diploma of the *National Health Society*.

A considerable number of Mothers have entered for this course.



## OUR COLONIAL WORK.


---

AN extremely interesting feature of the work is the link to home and home culture, which families among our colonists scattered all over the world seem to find in the "Parents' Review," "Parents' Review School," "Mothers' Educational Course," etc. We get most touching and interesting letters from parents settled, sometimes almost without the pale of civilization, who hail the "Parents' Review" as a stimulating friend. We are connected in this way with families in various parts of India and Ceylon, Australia, New Zealand, Zululand and Cape Colony, and other parts of South Africa. We have friends also in the United States and in various European countries. Admirable work is done by parents who are training their children in the "Parents' Review School" in districts far removed from other educational opportunities.





P66cmc272



## NOTICE.

---

A few Copies of the Report published in June, 1892, containing an article by Miss Mason on "THE PRINCIPLES OF EDUCATION," may still be had from the Hon. Org. Sec., post free, for Three Stamps.

"HOME EDUCATION," by Miss Mason, the Text-book of the Society, post free 3/6.

Single Copies of the "PARENTS' REVIEW" will be sent for 7½d., or post free for one year, for 6/-.

HENRY PERRIN,



Hon. Org. Sec.

8, CARLTON HILL,


LONDON, N.W.



P66cmc272



# PARENTS' NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL UNION.



## The Report for 1894,

TOGETHER WITH


*A BRIEF ACCOUNT*

OF THE

HOUSE OF EDUCATION,

AND

Parents' Review School.





P 67cmca 272



THE PARENTS'  
National Educational Union.



ANNUAL REPORT,  
JUNE, 1894.



Offices: 28, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.

Secretary: MISS ETHEL FORSYTH.

(Office Hours, 2 to 5 Daily, except Saturday.)



P68mc272

# Parents' National Educational Union.

## FOUNDER

MISS CHARLOTTE MASON.

## EX-PRESIDENTS:

RIGHT HON. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF ABERDEEN.

## PRESIDENT:

## VICE-PRESIDENTS:

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF MEATH  
THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.  
THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF RIPON.  
THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF WINCHESTER.  
THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF WAKEFIELD.  
THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM.  
THE RIGHT REV. DR. BLUNT, BISHOP OF HULL.  
THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON FARRAR, D.D.  
THE MASTER OF TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.  
SIR J. CRICHTON BROWNE, M.D., F.R.S.  
SIR FREDERICK AND LADY HOGG.  
THE HEAD MASTER OF HARROW.  
THE HON. MRS. FRANCIS BRIDGMAN.  
THE REV. E. A. STUART, M.A.  
MISS DOROTHEA BEALE.  
MISS FRANCES BUSS.  
MRS. BOYD CARPENTER.  
MISS EMILY SHIRREFF.

*Chairman of Executive Committee:* A. T. SCHOFIELD, Esq., M.D.

*Hon. Treasurer:* SIR FREDERICK HOGG, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.

*Hon. Org. Secretaries:* THE LADY ISABEL MARGESSON.

MISS CHARLOTTE MASON.

MRS. FRANCIS STEINTHAL.

HENRY PERRIN, Esq.

*Hon. Auditor:* CONRAD TULLOCH, Esq., F.I.C.A.

*Secretary:* MISS ETHEL FORSYTH.

(Office hours, 2 to 5 daily, except Saturday.)

*Bankers:* THE LONDON & WESTMINSTER BANK.  
(Victoria Street Branch.)

P69cmc272

## COUNCIL

MISS ROSE ADAMS.  
\*MRS. F. H. ANSON.  
W. BORRER, Esq., AND MRS. BORRER.  
MRS. ARNOLD FORSTER.  
HENRY BEVERIDGE, Esq.  
OSCAR BROWNING, Esq.  
MRS. MONTAGU BUTLER.  
MISS M. A. CHREIMAN.  
\*MRS. COTTON.  
\*A. C. P. COOTE, Esq., AND MRS. COOTE.  
MRS. SPEDDING CURWEN.  
MRS. J. SPENCER CURWEN.  
THE REV. CANON AND MRS. DANIEL.  
MRS. ELLIS.  
THE REV. J. P. FAUNTHORPE, M.A.  
REV. JAMES FORSYTH, M.A., F.S.Sc., &c.  
\*MISS FRANKS.  
THE REV. CANON FURSE AND MRS. FURSE.  
JUDGE GATES, Q.C., AND MRS. GATES.  
A. H. GILKES, Esq., M.A.  
DR. GLADSTONE, F.R.S.  
\*MRS. GORDON.  
\*MRS. GURNEY-FOX.  
\*MRS. HART-DAVIS.  
DR. W. M. HICKS, F.R.S., AND MRS. HICKS.  
MRS. HOLTON.  
THE LADY ALICE ARCHER HOUBLON.  
\*THE REV. W. H. KEELING, M.A., AND MRS. KEELING.  
LADY KENNETT-BARRINGTON.  
\*MRS. STEWART MACKAY.  
\*M. R. MARGESSON, Esq., AND THE LADY ISABEL MARGESSON.  
\*MISS CHARLOTTE MASON.  
MRS. MAUDE.  
\*MRS. RONALD McNEILL.  
MRS. L. T. MEADE.  
PROFESSOR MAX MULLER, M.A.  
MRS. MULLER.  
\*MRS. HALLAM MURRAY.  
C. KEGAN PAUL, Esq., M.A., AND MRS. KEGAN PAUL.  
\*HENRY PERRIN, Esq., AND MRS. PERRIN.  
J. SURTEES PHILLPOTTS, Esq., M.A.  
\*G. T. PILCHER, Esq.  
MRS. GUY PYM.  
\*EDWARD C. ROBINS, Esq., F.S.A., AND MRS. ROBINS.  
T. G. ROOPER, Esq., H.M.I.  
MRS. SCHARLIEB, M.D.  
\*DR. A. T. SCHOFIELD AND MRS. SCHOFIELD.  
THE REV. T. W. SHARPE, M.A., H.M.I.  
A. SONNENSCHN, Esq.  
\*FRANCIS STEINTHAL, Esq., AND MRS. STEINTHAL.  
PROFESSOR SULLY, M.A.  
MISS ANNA SWANWICK.  
\*THE REV. G. R. THORNTON, M.A.  
\*A. H. TUBBY, Esq., M.B., M.S.  
\*ALFRED THOMPSON, Esq., AND MRS. THOMPSON.  
MRS. SYMES THOMPSON.  
MRS. FRANCIS WARNER.  
REV. CANON WAUGH.  
MISS HELEN WEBB, M.B.  
REV. H. W. WEBB-PEPLOE, M.A.  
FREDERICK WILLS, Esq., AND MRS. WILLS.

\*Those Members of the Council whose names are marked (\*) form the Executive Council.



P70cmc 272

## RULES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE Parents' National Educational Union.

---

1.—This Society shall be called "The Parents' National Educational Union."

2.—The Central Principles, to which all Local Branches joining the Society shall pledge themselves, shall be:—

- (1) That a religious basis of work be maintained.
- (2) That the series of addresses and other means employed by the Union shall be so arranged as to deal with Education under the following heads:—Physical, Mental, Moral and Religious.
- (3) That arrangements concerning Lectures, &c., be made with a view to the convenience of fathers as well as mothers.
- (4) That the work of the Union be arranged so as to help parents of all classes.

3.—That the objects of the Society shall be:—

- (1) To assist parents of all classes to understand the best principles and methods of Education in all its aspects, and especially in those which concern the formation of habits and character.
- (2) To create a better public opinion on the subject of the training of children, and, with this object in view, to collect and make known the best information and experience on the subject.
- (3) To afford to parents opportunities for Co-operation and Consultation, so that the wisdom and experience of each may be made profitable for all.
- (4) To stimulate their enthusiasm through the sympathy of numbers acting together.
- (5) To secure greater unity and continuity of Education by harmonising home and school training.

## CONSTITUTION.

4.—The Society shall consist of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Ordinary Members, a Central Council and Executive Committee, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, and Local Branches.

5.—The following persons shall be Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Members of Council:—with power to add to their number (See list on Pages 2 and 3).

6.—The following shall be the Officers of the Society:—

A. T. SCHOFIELD, Esq., M.D., *Chairman of Executive Committee.*

SIR FREDERICK HOGG, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., *Hon. Treasurer.*

THE LADY ISABEL MARGESSON  
MRS. FRANCIS STEINTHAL .. } *Hon. Org. Secretaries.*  
HENRY PERRIN, Esq. .. }

CONRAD TULLOCH, Esq., F.I.C.A., *Hon. Auditor.*

MISS ETHEL FORSYTH, *Secretary.*

(Office hours 2 to 5 daily except Saturday.)

THE LONDON & WESTMINSTER BANK, *Bankers.*

(Victoria Street Branch.)

7.—The Bankers of the Union shall be the London and Westminster Bank (Victoria Street Branch.)

8.—The Executive Committee shall be empowered to add to the number of Vice-Presidents and of members of the Central Council. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the Council annually, when six of its members shewing lowest attendances shall retire, and shall not be eligible for re-election until the lapse of one year. The officers of the Society shall (with exception of the Secretary) be eligible for re-election, and shall be elected at the same time as the other members of the Committee. Three members of the Executive Committee shall form a *quorum*.



9.—A Finance sub-Committee shall meet monthly, which shall report its proceedings for ratification to an office sub-Committee empowered by the Executive Committee to carry the same into effect.

10.—The Central Council, of which the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and the Executive Committee shall be members, shall meet once a year to receive reports of work done and progress made in the past year, and to advise as to new departures, &c.

11.—The Executive Committee shall meet quarterly, or more often if summoned on urgent business connected with the Society, and shall make any needful bye-laws.

12.—One member of each Local Branch shall represent it at the meeting of the Central Council as an *ex-officio* member.

13.—Branches of the Society shall be free to organise themselves and make their own local bye-laws, a copy of which shall be sent up to the Executive Committee of the Central Council.

14.—The Secretaries of Branches shall prepare and send to the Secretary, previous to the meeting of the Central Council, a report of work done in the Branch during the year. They shall also send to the Secretary a supply of any prospectuses or other papers printed by their Branch, that she may send a copy to each of the other Local Secretaries.

#### FINANCE.

15.—Not less than five shillings a year, to cover both heads of a household, shall be the subscription of Members of Branches. Members subscribing not less than ten shillings per

annum shall be entitled to receive monthly a copy of "The Parents' Review" (published at 6d.)

16.—Ten shillings a year shall be the subscription of Members of the Central Council.

17.—The annual fee of one guinea shall be paid by each Local Branch to the general Treasurer of the Society.

18.—Subscriptions and fees shall fall due on the 1st of January of each year, and shall be sent in to the Treasurer. In the case of Local Branches, subscriptions shall be paid to the Local Treasurer on January 1st, or at the next meeting following the date when they fall due.

19.—Subscriptions to the Central Fund are invited. Such subscriptions should be paid in to the Secretary.





P74cmc272

8

THE  
Parents' National Educational Union.  
GENERAL ANNUAL REPORT,  
JUNE, 1894.

FOR some time the Parents' National Educational Union has been content to blush unseen, though diffusing a pleasant fragrance by its teachings, through many a happy household. During this period it has been consolidating its forces and quietly extending its influence. The House of Education at Ambleside has become an accomplished fact. Those who have been already equipped are winning, not only honour for themselves, but a grateful appreciation of the modern methods they pursue. In more than one school-room, not only do the children vote the school hour the happiest time of the day, but parents and friends alike invade it, to hear the interesting discourses that are given. The Parents' Review School and other agencies have been also well established, and are doing a great and useful work.

But all this is ancient history, being at least a twelve-month old. The word now is "Forward!" And it is being obeyed. The time has arrived for this Union to become better known. It is the only Union of the sort that regards fathers as having a practical interest in the child's welfare as well as the mothers, and fathers are a distinct power in the conferences, and deliver

P75cmc272

9

themselves of many wise remarks and practical precepts at the numerous local meetings. This Union also appeals primarily and specially to the educated classes. Based as its principles are on the latest advances in Physiology, Psychology and Sociology, it aims at being in the van in education.

And here let me say one word about the abuse of this word that so distorts our true use of it. Many thus think that the P.N.E.U. is some new union of school teachers, or at any rate is conceived primarily in school work and school life. Now the word education means "to draw out" or "to develope," and is rightly used for parental training in the formation of physical, mental, and moral character. School teaching and book learning should never be called education. For if we venture to submit a new word to our philologists, and one that would at once do away with the existing confusion that arises from trying to give two different meanings to one word, the word we purpose is "inducation," or "a leading in" or "a storing" or "filling" the mind with knowledge, a process totally opposed to the drawing out or developing of the qualities already there. To return to our text. The "forward movement" has been shewn, first in the formation of new branches, especially on the south coast, which have made a good start as our readers know, under the best auspices. These, in our opinion, consist in the branch being the result of a felt want met by local energy and supported by local influence. Though thus independent of central aid there can be no doubt of the value of a strong central trunk to multiplying branches, and we are glad, therefore, to point out the second plan of the "forward movement" in the establishing of central offices at 28, Victoria Street, Westminster, under the able superintendence of our new general secretary, Miss Ethel Forsyth, the late



P77CME272

principal of the Forsyth Technical Training College for ladies, and since then an extensive organizer in County Council work.

This gives the Union that *pied-à-terre* it so much needed, and we trust the offices will be visited by all friends when in town, and that wherever fresh interest arises in any locality it may be made known at headquarters with a view if needed of giving any required information or help.

The third advance is in the establishing under a Sub-Committee, of a body of ladies and gentlemen willing to give lectures at various centres, on subjects connected with the training of children.

These are in many cases honorary, in others a small fee is paid, and we are sure they will be largely in requisition and very generally appreciated. The next step taken is the publishing of *The Parents' Review* by ourselves. This is a great help in every way, and will, we trust, give all our readers a personal interest in its circulation, which might easily be doubled or trebled with very little effort. When it is considered that the profits of this magazine are entirely devoted to the furtherance of the P.N.E.U., and that its contents wholly consist of articles written especially to help parents in their work, it will be seen that it is worth a little trouble in making it known and securing fresh subscribers. This can be done in various ways. Subscribers should obtain an extra copy to place in their local reading room each month, and other copies to give away, or old copies can be bought in quantity at a reduced price for free distribution.

We trust these new beginnings will stir up all our friends to work with still greater zeal for the spread of this Union, by whose means these principles and

P77CME272

methods that are of proved value in early education may be everywhere known, and that by means of its conferences and discussions, parents may be practically helped in the carrying out of their noble and all important task, fraught with the deepest social and national results, of child training.

We cannot close this brief account of the Union without a word of deep regret at the enforced withdrawal of Lord and Lady Aberdeen from their position as Presidents, and of hearty thanks to them for their kind and generous support in the work. We have every reason, however, to hope for a continuance of their interest, and at some future time of a renewal of their immediate connection with this Union, which owes much of its present success to the impetus given to it on the part of Lady Aberdeen.





p78cmc272

12

## REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING, June, 1893.

THE Annual Meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday afternoon, June 7th, at London House, St. James Square, by the kind permission of the Bishop of London. The chair was taken by the Countess of Aberdeen, one of the Presidents of the Society. The room was crowded, and amongst those present were Canon Daniel, Miss Beale, the Lady Alice Archer Houblon, the Lady Isabel Margesson, Miss Helen Webb, M.B., Dr. A. T. Schofield, Mrs. Douglas Powell, Lady Macpherson Grant, Rev. Sidney Davies, Rev. J. T. Penrose, Preb. Eyton, Mr. Arthur Pease, Rev. H. and Mrs. Hart-Davis, Mrs. Walter Ward, Mrs. Gurney Fox, Mrs. Ronald McNeill, Mrs. Washington Epps, and Miss C. M. Mason.

Mr. Henry Perrin, the Organising Secretary, in presenting the Report, said that the year showed much progress both in the number of meetings, of active branches, and in the increase of general interest in the work of the Society. Letters of regret at their inability to attend had been received from Lord Meath, who had been obliged to take the chair at another meeting, from Mrs. Boyd-Carpenter, who had expressed the greatest interest in the work, from the Bishop of Hull and Archdeacon Sinclair.

The Rev. Prebendary Eyton, in moving the adoption of the report, said that he must express his great appreciation of the work of the Society. It had done and was doing a most important work, and one which needed to be accentuated, in enforcing the personal responsibility of parents in the training of their children. The real work of the Society was to insist on this and to urge on parents not to delegate their authority. He then went on to say a few words on the great importance of religious education. In children's education, they must begin with the greatest thing of all, and that was God. They ought not to begin with teaching religious observances before giving to children a real conception of God. In many of what might be called well-regulated homes, children had such notions about God as would not be found in a heathen land. Definite moral teaching ought also to be given; not merely the inculcation of the virtues, but of the reasons why they should be cultivated. There should be clear teaching of the grounds of moral obligation. To say that these things were to be done because they were right was not enough; there ought to be fuller explanation. He thought the moral element in games should not be underrated. The characters and tendencies of children could often best be seen in the excitement of games. The moral element should be recognised, but should not always be enforced; a sermon should not be given in the midst of a game of cricket. (Applause.)

p79cmc272

13

Mr. Oscar Browning, in seconding the report, said that only the very great interest he felt in the work of the Society could have induced him to come and speak on a subject, about which he had so little knowledge. He had had very little to do with the education of the young. But in studying the history of teaching, and the lives of the great teachers, he had noticed that all great improvements in the methods of education had come from the study of the education of the very young. Rousseau, Pestalozzi, and Fröbel had created almost a revolution in education, but the most successful precepts of Rousseau and the greatest discoveries of Pestalozzi and Fröbel were made through what they had to do with the very young. Parents should be encouraged, since these great improvements had been made, to study the development of their own children, which might also have great effects. As a man, who had been a master in a public school, he would emphasize the fact that the responsibility of parents did not end with sending their sons to school. He himself used to urge on parents that the success of their boys depended more on them than on their masters. They should above all, keep closely in touch with their boys. He hoped that such a large meeting was a good augury for the welfare and prosperity of the Society. [Applause.]

Canon Daniel, in supporting the resolution, said that one of the objects of the Society was to secure harmony between home and school teaching. This necessity for harmony was not always kept in view, judging from what parents often said about schools and teachers about parents. Yet to obtain continuity of education, there should be an understanding between the parents and teachers. A community of principles and unity of method ought to exist. Children were educated at home before they went to school, and were often taught on the most antiquated methods, and had to unlearn a great deal at school. It was the worst thing for a child to unlearn with a great deal of trouble, what it had taken a great deal of trouble to learn. Such books as Mangnall's Questions were used, and classifications were taught in different sciences that had gone out centuries ago. Parents should co-operate with teachers by ascertaining the best methods and the best books; they should support the teacher's authority, and should not criticise the school and the curriculum to their children, as he had heard parents do. He then pointed out the importance of the physical side in education, such as the provision of suitable desks to prevent children becoming round-shouldered or near-sighted. Another point he would urge on the parents for the sake of the children was to secure them privacy at their home lessons. No real work could be done amid the distractions among which children were sometimes expected to work, such as piano-playing, visitors, and servants going in and out. The hours of work, too, should be regulated: the children should not be allowed to work when or as long as they pleased: fixed and regular hours were a good training and the best security of the work being properly done. [Applause.]

Mr. Arthur Pease spoke in support of the resolution, enforcing the importance of the example of parents in all efforts of Christian training.



The Countess of Aberdeen said that after so many weighty speeches, it was hardly necessary for her to drive home the need for supporting this Society. She and Lord Aberdeen regretted very much that they could do no more for the Society, but at any rate they could claim to represent parents who felt their need of the help and guidance which the Society could give. Most of those present had probably been connected with the work that was doing so much good among the mothers of the working classes, and yet they must often have felt that the mothers of the richer classes needed help quite as much, if not more. They all felt a great debt of gratitude to Miss Mason and all who had instituted this Society. They had been ridiculed at times—there had been paragraphs in the press, but they could bear such remarks. The best way to get over any prejudice was to increase the circulation of the *Parents' Review*. The great point of the *Review* was that it brought before them an ideal for which they might strive in the education of their children, physical, moral, mental, and religious. The Association had been chiefly spoken of as helping to train children in their private lives, but she would like to call attention to the work it could do to train children for their public lives—for the services which their country was more and more expecting. It had been said, and it was true, that this was a glorious time in which to live, but sometimes they felt that the demands upon them were greater than their strength; but if the demands on them were great, they would be greater still on their children. There was increased need for good administrators in local matters and in wider fields—who would supply them? So they ought to train their children in all those ethical qualities which went to make up a true and good public servant. The Association had a great work to do for the country, as well as in the private lives of parents and children. [Applause.]

The Report was then adopted.

Miss Mason gave an account of the work done in the House of Education at Ambleside, and of the letters they had received from parents in all parts of the world, whose children were doing the courses prescribed at Ambleside. She spoke of the success of the teachers they had trained, and said that all the students who came there had a vocation to the work in the true sense of the word. They did not train "lady nurses" or "mothers' helps" or even "nursery governesses" in the old sense of the word, *i.e.*, people who could speak their mother tongue imperfectly, and were therefore thought fit to teach young children; but they trained ladies to be good teachers whether of young or of older children. [Applause]

Dr. Schofield moved a vote of thanks to the Countess of Aberdeen for taking the chair and coming to London at considerable inconvenience to do so. He read a letter he had received from Mrs. Dallas-Yorke, in which the system of instruction and arrangements at Ambleside were spoken of in the highest terms, and gave the personal evidence of a lady friend of his, who had taken a governess for her children from Ambleside, and who was delighted with her methods. There were now many ladies who were

waiting to get governesses from Ambleside. He recommended the study of *The Parents' Review*.

Lady Isabel Margesson gave an account of the great success that had attended the Monthly Meetings in the Belgravia Branch, and the welcome which the parents had given to the courses of Training Lessons. They had had three courses: "The Theory and Practice of Froebel," by Mrs. Walter Ward; "Teaching Children to Draw and Paint," by Mr. E. Cooke, a disciple of Ruskin; and "Religious Instruction," by Miss Agnes Mason. This last course had been especially welcomed by many mothers who had felt the very great difficulty of the subject. A Natural History Club had been started for the benefit of Members. She had much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks.

Miss Beale, of the Ladies' College, Cheltenham, spoke of the great importance of co-operation between parents and teachers; of the necessity of a religious basis for education, and of the great help the Union had been.

The Rev. Mr. Hart-Davies also supported the vote of thanks, said that they must all regret that they were not children, to be brought up on these new methods, or that Miss Mason had not been born fifty years before. They must all be grateful that they had the help of the Society with their own children. He should like to call attention to the fact that the Society was a "National" one, and he hoped its influence would spread not only among the richer classes but also among the commercial and trading classes, and above all among the working classes. He had much pleasure in supporting the vote of thanks. [Cheers.]

The vote was put by Dr. Schofield and carried by acclamation.

Lady Aberdeen, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said she had to give a message of regret from Lord Aberdeen for his inability to attend. The Society would soon have to relieve them of their office, from circumstances out of their power to control, but they should always be glad to have been connected with it. [Applause.]

The proceedings then terminated.





P83cmc272

## Session 1893-4.

### BELGRAVIA BRANCH.

#### COMMITTEE.

MRS. F. H. ANSON.  
MRS. COCKBURN.  
REV. J. H. ELLISON.  
MRS. FARRER.  
MRS. H. W. HOARE.  
MISS HOLMES.

MRS. SHIRREFF HILTON.  
JOHN MURRAY, ESQ.  
REV. A. J. MYERS.  
GUY PYM, ESQ.  
HON. E. THESIGER, C.B.  
MRS. WOOLRYCHE WHITMORE.

**Treasurer:** MRS. HALLAM MURRAY.

**Hon. Secretary:** THE LADY ISABEL MARGESSON.

The Committee have much pleasure in reporting the continued growth and progress of the Branch. The subjects of the Monthly Lectures given by the kindness of friends have been—"The Gouin Method of Teaching Languages"; "Physiology"; "Manual Training"; "Force of Habit"; "Ethics of Æsthetics"; "The Rational Teaching of the Pianoforte."

Since the opening of the Central Office the meetings of the Belgravia Branch have been convened by the Central Committee, in order to focus the interest in the work of the Union and to enlarge the scope of its operations. The Natural History Club and the Lending Library arranged and started by the Belgravia Branch have been also taken over by the Central Committee.

#### TRAINING LESSONS.

There have been two separate courses of Training Lessons during the winter. The first was given by Mr. Howard Swan on "How to teach Foreign Languages by the Gouin Method." The second was on "Physiology" given by Miss Helen Webb, M.B. (Lond.). Each course consisted of about eight lessons and proved of great value and interest.

#### A NEW DEPARTURE.

The Belgravia Branch made an experiment this year in arranging for short courses of four lectures each, the cost of tickets for each course being only 4s. (in one instance 5s.). These Lectures were on "Recent Discoveries in Egypt" by Mrs. Senior; "Domestic Animals and their Types" by Miss Goodrich Freer; "Geology and Field Work" by Miss Whitley; "Ibsen" by Miss M. Carta Sturge; and "Wagner" by Mr. Ashton Jonson. The experiment has proved a complete success, all the lectures have been much appreciated and have been well attended.

### BAYSWATER BRANCH.

THE EARL OF MEATH (*President*).

REV. J. C. RIDGWAY (*Vice-President*).

COMMITTEE (not yet formed).

DR. A. T. SCHOFIELD (*Chairman*).

MISS E. CAMPBELL (*Hon. Treasurer and Sec.*), 1, Campden Hill Road, W.

A meeting to inaugurate this branch was held on April 25th 1894, when an address was delivered by Dr. A. T. Schofield on the "Work of the P.N.E.U."

A course of lectures will be arranged for the Autumn.

### CONGLETON BRANCH.

On Wednesday, May 16th, an inaugural meeting was held in the Church Schoolroom, Mr. Arthur Solly in the chair, when Miss Forsyth gave an address explaining the aims and objects of the P.N.E.U., and was followed by the Lady Isabel Margesson, who gave a brief account of the work of the Belgravia Branch and the Natural History Club. Owing to the inclement weather the attendance was small, but a resolution was passed that a branch of the P.N.E.U. be forthwith formed, several members of the audience giving their names as subscribers. The Secretary and Committee have not yet been definitely nominated.

### HAMPSTEAD AND ST. JOHN'S WOOD BRANCH.

Rev. E. A. ABBOTT, D.D. (*President*).

#### COMMITTEE:

Miss BUSS,

Mrs. and Mrs. HOWGRAVE GRAHAM,

Mr. and Mrs. HENRY PERRIN,

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. ROBINS,

Mrs. YEOMAN,

Dr. PIDCOCK (*Treasurer*).

Mrs. HERBERT SMITH (*Hon Sec.*)

Miss BEGG (*Hon. Librarian*).

At the close of the Summer Session of 1893, to the great regret of the Committee and Members, Miss C. Playne, who had filled the office of Secretary to the Branch for three years, was compelled to resign, as her family were removing to the country. Her work was most kindly undertaken, *pro tem.*, by Mrs. Braidwood, until Feb., 1894, when she was succeeded by the present Hon. Sec.

The interest of members (of whom there are now 133), has been well sustained during the year, and an increasing number subscribe to the *Parents' Review*.



The following Meetings have been held since the last report :  
 Oct. 25th, 1893.—"Lessons before School, or Home and what to teach as a preparation for School." By Mr. R. SOMERVELL, M.A. Chairman :  
 DR. PIDCOCK.

Nov. 24th.—"Children's Books," by Mrs. SOPHIE BRYANT, *Dis. Sec.*  
 Chairman : PROF. SULLY.

Dec. 19th.—"The House of Education at Ambleside," by Miss VIOLET PARKER.

Jan. 8th, 1894.—"Professions for our Girls," Miss E. A. BARNETT.

Feb. 9th.—"Some Characteristics of Children's Minds," by Prof. SULLY.

Feb. 14th.—"Sloyd," by Mr. J. RUSSELL. Chairman, C. HERBERT SMITH, Esq., LL.D.

March 17th.—"Brush Drawing for Children," by Mr. E. COOKE. Chairman, Mr. E. INGRAM TAYLOR.

April 10th.—"The Norland Institute," by Mrs. WALTER WARD.

May 11th.—"Education and the Age," by Mrs. HANCOCK. Chairman, CANON GIRDLESTONE.

A course of five lessons on "Brush Drawing," by Mr. E. COOKE, has also been held, at which twelve members attended.

On May 28th, 1893, a sermon was preached at the request of the Branch, by Rev. J. Monro Gibson, D.D., on the Training of Children, from the text "Ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," Eph. vi. 4.

The Lending Library contains about 60 volumes.

### LEEDS BRANCH.

The Hon. MRS. TALBOT (*President*.)

#### COMMITTEE :

MRS. MIALL. MRS. SMITHELLS. MRS. FRANCIS STEINTHAL.  
 MRS. ROBSON (*Treasurer*). MRS. JOHN BARRAN (*Hon. Sec.*)

The Committee of the Leeds Branch have to report steady progress during their second session. The number of members has increased from 38 to 60, and the lectures have all been well attended. The syllabus for next session is not yet settled, but the Committee hope to draw up an interesting and attractive one, and believe that the Union has a sure foothold in the town.

The following meetings have been held :—

Oct., 1893.—Address by DR. J. E. EDDISON.

Nov. 24th, 1893.—"Stupidity," by MRS. MIALL.

Dec., 1893.—"Parents & Sons," by HON. & REV. EDWARD LYTTELTON, M.A.

Jan., 1894.—"First Principles of Education (Intellectual)" by MR. JAMES WELTON, M.A.

Feb., 1894.—"First Principles of Education (Moral)" by MR. JAMES WELTON, M.A.

March, 1894.—"Art Training in the Nursery," by MRS. FRANCIS STEINTHAL. Three lectures on "Nursery Physiology" were also given by Mrs. Steintal during March.

### MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

On Thursday, the 17th May, a Meeting was held in the Grammar School, by kind permission of Mr. Wilmot, the Head Master, who took the Chair, to consider the advisability of forming a Branch of the P.N.E.U. Miss Forsyth addressed the Meeting and explained the Principles of the "New Education," and the aims and objects of the Parents' Union. Lady Isabel Margesson also spoke in support of Miss Forsyth, and after a short but interesting discussion, it was proposed that a Branch of the P.N.E.U. be formed, whereupon twenty members of the audience signified their willingness to join the Union, and several of these volunteered to serve on a provisional Committee, to consider future plans. A letter from Miss Philips, Head Mistress of the High School, was read, expressing her regret at being unavoidably absent, and her cordial support of the prospective Branch.

### READING BRANCH.

The Rt. Rev. The BISHOP OF READING (*President*).

#### COMMITTEE :

MRS. CLAYTON.	MRS. HASLAM.
REV. T. F. COLSON.	MRS. HUDLESTON.
MRS. HART DAVIS.	MRS. G. W. PALMER.
REV. M. T. FRIEND.	MR. ALFRED SUTTON.
MR. HASTINGS GIFFORD, F.R.C.S.	MRS. HERBERT SUTTON.
MISS L. E. HAIGH.	MRS. C. W. TAYLOR.

*Treasurer* : REV. A. H. CUNNINGHAM.

*Hon. Sec.* : MR. W. SALMON.

The following lectures have been delivered during the session 1893-4 :  
 June 3rd, 1893.—"The Ethics of Punishment," by Rev. T. M. FRIEND.  
 Chairman, Rev. R. H. HART DAVIS.

Nov. 18th, 1893.—"Family Life," by Mrs. HART DAVIS. Chairman, Mr. HERBERT SUTTON.

Jan. 12th, 1894.—"Children's Food; its Influence on Mind and Body," Miss E. A. BARNETT. Chairman, Mr. ALFRED SUTTON.

May 24th, 1894.—"The Physiology of Childhood," by Mr. S. G. TREMENEKERE, H.M.I.

The Lending Library is well patronized by members, and there is no doubt it is a source of usefulness.



## SHEFFIELD BRANCH.

## PRESIDENTS:

THE VEN. ARCHDEACON AND MRS. BLAKENEY.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS:

REV. C. AND MRS. CLEMENTSON.	H. J. WILSON, ESQ., M.P. AND
REV. CANON AND MRS. FAVELL.	MRS. WILSON.
J. W. PYE-SMITH, ESQ. AND MRS. PYE-SMITH.	MRS. WOODHOUSE.

## TREASURER:

MRS. J. N. COOMBE.

## HON. SECS.:

MRS. NEWTON COOMBE. | MISS WALMSLEY.

The following meetings have been held during the Session, 1893-94:

Nov. 1st, 1893.—“The Food and Clothing of Children from the age of two to fourteen years,” by MISS HELEN WILSON, M.B.

Jan. 12th, 1894.—“The True Meaning of Education,” by the HON. and REV. E. LYTTETON.

March, 1894.—“Brush-Drawing,” by MRS. FRANCIS STEINTHAL.

The Sheffield Branch numbers about thirty-six members, of whom a fair proportion take in the P.R.

## SOUTHDOWN BRANCH.

THE LADY LOUISE LODER (*President*).

## BRIGHTON CENTRE.

MRS. WILLIAM BORRER (*Hon. Sec.*)

On the 15th Nov. a Meeting took place at Abinger House, Brighton, by kind permission of Lady Louise Loder. The speakers were Dr. Schofield, Mrs. Hart-Davis, Canon Waugh, and Lady Isabel Margesson. A Branch was then formed with Brighton as a working centre for itself and the neighbourhood. A little later two large Sussex Centres joined this Branch which now numbers over 165 members.

The following lectures have been given at Brighton:—

January.—“Nursery Hygiene.” MISS HELEN WEBB, M.B.

February.—“The Basis of Education.” MISS E. A. BARNETT.

March.—“Key-board Notation.” MISS EVA YOUNG.

April.—An open Meeting took place at the Pavilion, when Mr. Somervell, Assistant Master at Harrow, addressed a large gathering on the subject of “Lessons before School, or what to teach as preparation for School.”

May.—Mrs. Steintal lectures on Modelling. A course of four Lectures takes place in May and June in the British Museum on “Egyptian Discoveries and their bearing on Biblical research.” This course will be attended by members from the three centres.

## SOUTHDOWN BRANCH.

## EASTBOURNE CENTRE.

MRS. BUTT, *Hon. Sec.*

An inaugural meeting was held at the Town Hall, Eastbourne, on November 21st, 1893, when addresses were given on the objects and work of the P.N.E.U. by the Lady Isabel Margesson and Dr. Schofield.

A Local Branch was formed, and at the present time numbers 60 members. Meetings have been held every month, at which the speakers were as follows:—

January 18th.—MRS. FRANCIS STEINTHAL, Demonstration Lecture, “Modelling.”

February 23rd.—The Rev. H. BICKERSTETH OTTLEY, “The Religious Instruction of Children.”

March 6th.—MISS EDITH BARNETT, “Sense, and the Senses.”

April 3rd.—MISS E. STONES, “The Principles and Methods of Teaching in America.”

## HASTINGS AND S. LEONARD'S CENTRE.

The Rev. CANON SANDERSON, D.D., *Local President*.

## COMMITTEE:

Dr. BAGSHAWE.

Miss BISHOP.

W. KNIGHTON, Esq., LL.D.

W. B. LIDDIARD, Esq.

MRS. ANDREW MURRAY.

MRS. HAY MURRAY.

W. M. RHODES, Esq.

MISS M. VENABLES.

Dr. WILLIAMS.

Mrs. EDWARD VENABLES, *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*,  
S. Bernard's Lodge, London Road, S. Leonard's.

Work here was commenced in November, 1893, when Mrs. Hart-Davis most kindly addressed a very small gathering of people on a very wet day. Ten of the audience joined the Union, and the number of members has since increased to 50.

A Library of 21 volumes has been purchased for use of members. Lectures given:—

March 5th, 1894.—MISS E. A. BARNETT, “The Basis of Education: What we build on, and how we build.” Chairman, the Rev. Canon Sanderson.



- March 30th.—Mrs. WALTER WARD, "What a child learns in a school conducted on Froebel's principles." This address was followed by a short account of the "Norland Institute." Chairman, W. M. Rhodes, Esq.
- April 30th.—A lecture is arranged for Mrs. Ormiston Chant. Subject, "A Child's Leisure." Chairman, W. Knighton, Esq., LL.D.
- May 14th—"Rewards and Punishments," by Mr. W. Knighton.
- May.—"How to give Religious Instruction," by Miss Agnes Mason. Chairman, Rev. Canon Jones.

## CARDIFF BRANCH.

## COMMITTEE:

Mrs. DOWNING. DR. AND Mrs. ENSOR. Mrs. LEWIS.  
*Treasurer*: Mrs. THOMPSON.  
*Hon. Secretary*: Mrs. GREENER.

This branch was inaugurated at a meeting on April 19th, 1894, when nineteen members joined.

On April 10th, a lecture was delivered by Miss Ethel Forsyth on "Manual Training and its place in Primary Teaching."

## STREATHAM BRANCH

## COMMITTEE.

Rev. BARON DICKENSON, M.A. Dr. GARDINER GOULD.  
 Rev. G. M. DOUGHT, M.A. Miss JULIA GRIFFITHS.  
 Mr. R. J. H. MALLINSON, M.A. Miss CRICKMAY.

*Treasurer*:

*Hon. Sec.*: Mrs. STRODE.

With great regret the Committee announce the retirement of Mrs. Stewart Mackay from her post as Hon. Treasurer, although she retains her place on the Committee.

The Rev. Baron Dickinson also retires on account of the great pressure on his time, and Miss J. Griffiths as she is leaving the neighbourhood.

The work of the branch in 1893 consisted of six meetings in the autumn. The first, a numerous attended lecture by Dr. Schofield on "The Training of Children," was held at the Stanley Hall, Streatham. Four lectures on "Home Nursing" by Miss Florence Hewett, Trained Certificated Nurse, were given at Mrs. Strode's house on Wednesday afternoons, and were attended by an average of thirty-five ladies. These lectures were most helpful, and concluded with discussions and demonstrations. The last meeting was held at Mrs. Stewart Mackay's, when Miss Wallis, Head Mistress of the Richmond High School for Girls, spoke on children's "Home Work."

Thirty-five Members of this Branch and sixteen other ladies joined for the "Nursing Lectures."

## WOODFORD AND WANSTEAD BRANCH.

Mrs. HENRY FOWLER, (*President*).

## COMMITTEE:

Mrs. SPEDDING CURWEN.	Mrs. PEDLY.
Mrs. DOUGHTY.	Rev. W. T. H. WILSON and Mrs.
Mrs. ARNOLD HILLS.	WILSON.
Mrs. PRIMROSE PECHEY.	Mrs. ALBERT WILSON.
Miss EMMA FOWLER, ( <i>Treasurer</i> ). Mrs. SPEDDING CURWEN, ( <i>Hon. Sec.</i> )	

This Branch has made steady progress and now numbers forty members, and new ones are enrolled after each lecture.

The following meetings have been held during the Session:—

October 10th, 1893.—"Family Life," by Mrs. HART-DAVIS.

Nov. 7th, 1893.—"Inventive and Imitative Colouring for Children," by Mr. E. COOKE.

December 6th, 1893.—"How to make Music interesting to Children," by Mrs. SPENCER CURWEN. Rev. G. B. DOUGHTY in the chair.

February 27th, 1894.—"Pestalozzi's Message to Parents," Mr. J. RUSSELL.

April 27th, 1894.—"The Work of the P.N.E.U.," by Miss ETHEL FORSYTH.

May, 1894.—"Manual Training," by Mrs. WALTER WARD.

During the Easter term, 1894, Dr. SCHOFIELD gave a course of Lectures on "Hygiene," which was attended by a regular audience of fifty-one ladies, whilst many others came to hear single lectures. Twenty-two entered for the Examination. Dr. Schofield has promised to give his advanced course in the Autumn.





### LENDING LIBRARIES.

The Lending Libraries continue to be a distinctive feature of the Union, and are much appreciated wherever established. That started by the Belgravia Branch has been taken over by the Central Committee, and is in circulation at the office. It is very inadequate, however, to supply the demands of London members, and the Secretary will be glad to receive gifts of suitable books or donations for their purchase.

### NATURAL HISTORY CLUBS.

The Natural History Club belonging to the Belgravia Branch has this year been taken over by the Central office, and the number of its subscribers has greatly increased. The quarterly papers of suggestions for study and teaching are much appreciated, and it is hoped that other branches will affiliate themselves to this club, for the more general diffusion of knowledge of natural history. The following is an abstract of the report of the Exhibition, held in November, 1893, of "collections" made by members of the London Club:—

"Miss Holmes most kindly allowed the Exhibition to take place at the High School, Graham Street, Eaton Square. Forty-eight collections of various kinds were shewn, which, with very few exceptions, were the work of members who had not done anything of the kind before. This was a very encouraging sign, shewing that the Club was fulfilling the object for which it was started, namely, to give members guidance in "learning how to learn," and to help them to make a start in the study and observation of nature. Collections were not only sent by members who had had no previous knowledge, but also by children from four years old and upwards. Some friends and members were good enough to send a few collections and curiosities that had been gathered together previously, thereby adding greatly to the interest of the Exhibition. Mr. Ernest Sykes, secretary of the Malachological Society, was kind enough to come and inspect the work, and he reported most favourably upon it."

It is proposed to hold a similar exhibition next autumn, when it is hoped that all members of the Natural History Club will send collections of flowers, grasses, ferns, shells, or other specimens of Nature's handiwork.

### P.N.E.U. JUNIOR ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

This is a scheme for giving young people generally the opportunity of studying the past history of their own counties, carried out already by a Junior Archæological Society in Sussex on the following lines:—

#### *Suggested Plan for the Working of the Sussex Junior Archæological Society.*

That it shall be under the management of a Council of Reference which shall decide the rules and admit the members.

That the members shall be over seven and under seventeen years of age.

That there shall be two meetings annually, in June and in August.

That the arrangements for each meeting shall be undertaken by one or two members of the Council, living nearest to the place it is proposed to visit; a Manager, appointed on each occasion, who will arrange for the conveyance of the party; and the Secretary.

That a Lecturer be chosen to take the leadership of the party at the scene of interest.

That two prizes be offered, a senior and a junior, for the best answers to a list of questions supplied three days after each meeting by the Lecturer; each competitor shall undertake to answer the questions unaided and from memory. This examination is optional.

That each member shall bring his own lunch. Tea will be provided by the manager at a small cost.

That each member has the privilege of bringing two friends senior to the age of membership.

(It is desirable that children shall not be unaccompanied.)

From the above it will be seen that the actual rules for a P.N.E.U. Society of this kind are not yet determined upon, but help and advice on the matter will be given to members anxious to know more, by Mrs. Borrer, Pakyns Manor, Hursipierpoint, Sussex.

### THE PARENTS' REVIEW.

THE publication of this Magazine has now been undertaken by the Committee of the Parents' National Educational Union, and is circulated from the office. The number of subscribers has very largely increased during the past year, showing that the work of the Union is making itself more widely felt; but we would earnestly beg our friends to lose no opportunity of making the "Review" known, especially amongst educationalists, whose co-operation with parents is eagerly sought.

PRICE, SIXPENCE MONTHLY, or (post free) 6/6 per annum.  
From the Secretary, P.N.E.U. Office, 28, Victoria Street, S.W.  
(or may be obtained from all Booksellers.)